



Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor yesterday instructs the House about voting procedure before the Knesset vote on early elections.

Hart takes pro-Israel line with major Jewish leaders

By WOLF BLITZER
Jerusalem Post Correspondent

WASHINGTON. — Democratic presidential candidate Gary Hart yesterday took his campaign to New York and delivered a down-the-line pro-Israel statement before the Conference of Presidents of Major American Jewish Organizations. (See related story page 4.)

Hart sharply criticized his rival for the party's nomination, former vice-president Walter Mondale, for supposedly having tried to force one-sided concessions on Israel during the Carter administration.

Hart, whose campaign has slipped somewhat in recent days after Mondale victories in Illinois and Michigan, quoted from the late Moshe Dayan's memoirs in which the former foreign minister accused

Mondale of being worse toward Israel than Carter during one early meeting in Washington.

With the crucial New York Primary scheduled for April 3, both Hart and Mondale have clearly stepped up their efforts to underline their support for Israel and other Jewish causes.

Thus, Mondale has accused the Colorado Senator of demonstrating inconsistency toward Israel, citing Hart's statement last week that he — like Mondale — also favoured moving the U.S. Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem. In recent days, Mondale has repeatedly pointed out that Hart had not taken a formal position on that matter only two weeks earlier.

Hart came prepared to respond to that charge when he met with the Presidents' Conference yesterday.

He noted that he has been on record in favour of moving the embassy for more than a year. He pointed to a statement he made last year at the annual policy conference of the American Israel Public Affairs Committee (AIPAC) here in Washington.

Hart went on to promise to move the embassy shortly after taking office. He also said he would vote for Democratic Sen. Daniel Moynihan's proposed bill to force the transfer of the embassy.

Going one step further, he charged that Mondale, as vice-president for four years, had not pressed to move the embassy.

Hart yesterday drew the biggest applause when he called for Defence Secretary Caspar

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Early elections as gov't outvoted; September likely compromise date

Coalition defeated in 61:58 cliffhanger

By ARYEH RUBINSTEIN
Post Knesset Correspondent

By a vote of 61-58, the Knesset at 11:10 last night passed the preliminary reading of the Alignment bill calling for early elections. The vote was by a show of hands.

The die had been cast several hours earlier, when Mordechai Ben-Porat informed the prime minister that he had decided to vote with the opposition.

That gave the Alignment 61 votes, after it was already assured of the three votes of Tami and the vote of Likud-Liberal Yitzhak Berman.

At that point, Dror Zeigerman's return from Argentina proved fruitless, as would the appearance of Menachem Begin in the Knesset. The Tami and Communist bills passed by a vote of 60-58, since Berman did not vote for them.

The vote was delayed for several hours by the Likud's effort, after being confronted with Ben-Porat's decision, to have the vote conducted by a secret ballot.

It hoped that some opposition members, uncertain of being re-

ected and anxious to hold on to their seats as long as possible, would vote against the bill if they could do so in the dark.

The coalition majority in the House Committee approved the Likud motion for a secret ballot. But strong protests by the opposition in the plenum led Speaker Menachem Savidor to reverse his original decision to hold a secret ballot.

What seemed to trigger his retreat was the dramatic presentation to him by Alignment faction chairman Moshe Shahal of a request for a roll-call vote signed by 60 members. (Berman apparently was the member supporting the bills who refused to sign.)

But, reluctant to reverse the House Committee — and his own Likud faction — he announced the third recess of the day so that the presidium could discuss the matter with Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir.

When the House reconvened at 10:30 p.m., Savidor said that while

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By ASHER WALLFISH
Post Knesset Correspondent

The Tenth Knesset last night crossed the first crucial watershed on the way to its own dissolution and to early elections after a dramatic day of sittings, which opened at 11 a.m. and continued with many breaks and many ebullient interruptions until nearly midnight.

Private members' bills for dissolution and early elections, by

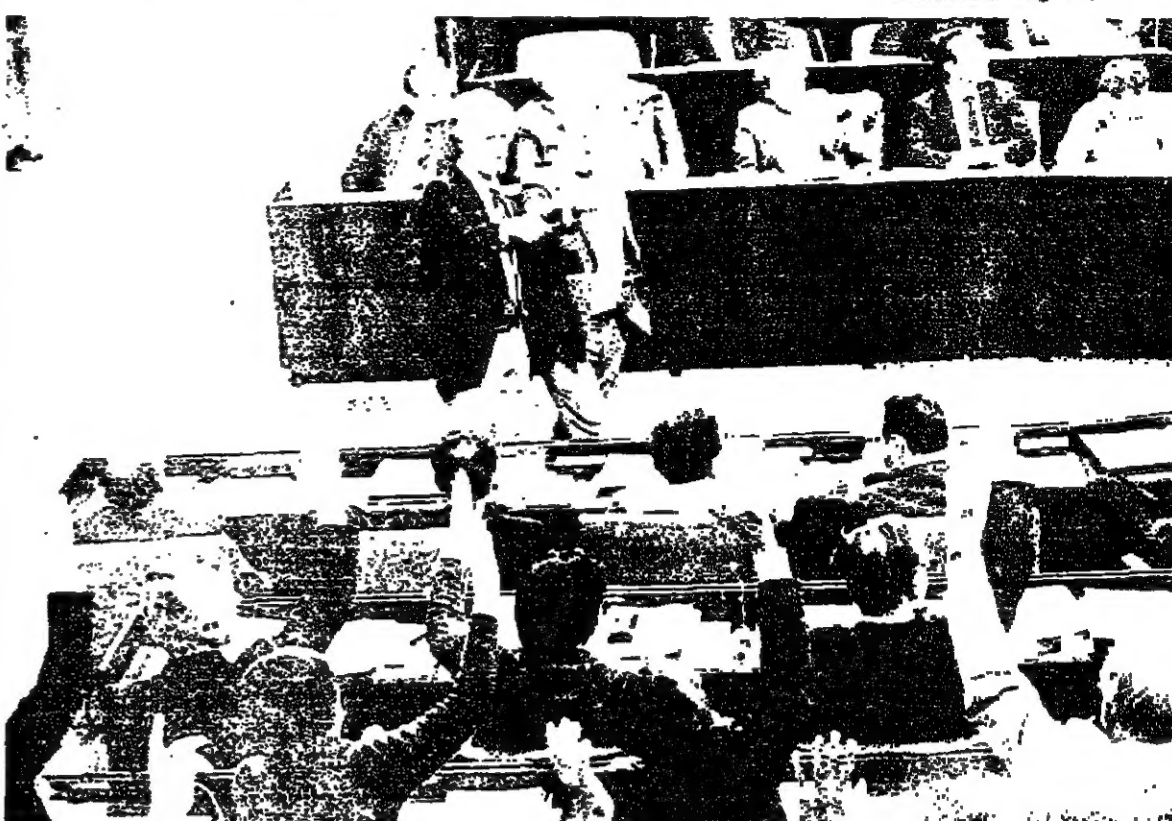
opposition factions and by the coalition's maverick Tami faction, were finally voted to committee to prepare for the preliminary readings by a vote of 61 to 58. The sole Knesset member absent from the vote was former prime minister Menachem Begin.

The Likud and Alignment are most likely to compromise on early September as the election date, it was learned last night.

The coalition minus Tami fought a stubborn rear-guard action in vain. While conceding that early elections had become inevitable for all practical purposes, the coalition twisted and turned to try to make sure that it itself would legislate the early elections and not Tami or the opposition.

The coalition, apart from this consideration of prestige, also wanted to do everything possible to get elections scheduled for November or December, rather

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MKs Micha Reiser (Likud) and Uri Sabag (Alignment) counting the hands in the Knesset during last night's vote on early elections.

Shamir pledges to obey will of the Knesset

Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir said last night after the vote that now that the Knesset has decided on early elections, albeit by a narrow majority, we all have to honour that decision.

He said that the coalition was not interested in holding elections now, because an election campaign would cause serious damage to the economic-recovery process.

The preliminary readings of the election bills will now have to go through the regular legislative procedure, he said.

Shamir recalled that the Likud was prepared to think about advancing the election to a date earlier than October 1985, but was against a date as early as within the next few months.

Labour Party chairman Shimon

Peres said that last night's vote was an important step forward. He stressed, however, that the Labour Alignment had a big job to do.

Tami's Aharon Abuhazzeira said that he had tried in vain during the day to get the coalition and the opposition to agree on an election date in June. Under the circumstances, he said, the Likud was ready to hold elections in September.

Market drops 6.4%

Post Finance Reporter

The stock market yesterday experienced one of its worst sessions in recent history, with the General Share Index falling 6.4 per cent.

Heavy selling led to 239 securities being declared "sellers only", as a result of which they could not be added and were automatically lowered 5 per cent. Another 161 equities declined from 5 to 10 per cent.

A number of explanations were heard for the steep drop. One was the expectation that elections would not be held in the near future and this would put off politically inspired favourable economic conditions.

Another suggestion was that the sell-off was triggered by investors going to cash in their profits after three sessions in which equities advanced by a total of more than \$500 million.

Mutual funds were allowed yesterday to devalue their holdings by 10 per cent, if these shares were determined as "buyers only."

Most observers expect the market to continue falling next week, as investors keep a wary eye on political developments.

Refuseniks appeal for freedom

Jerusalem Post Reporter

Twenty Leningrad refuseniks have sent a petition to the presidium of the Supreme Soviet in Moscow stating that their lives have become "unbearable" and demanding free silya to Israel.

The refuseniks, led by Yvgeny Lev, say that the new wave of firings of Jewish activists from their jobs,

as well as the increasing number of anti-Semitic articles in the Soviet press, have made their lives unbearable. They demanded the right to go to their homeland in Israel and be reunited with their families — "our right according to Soviet law."

A copy of the petition was received by the Israel Public Council for Soviet Jewry.

Two attacks on IDF

Jerusalem Post Reporter

METULLA. — No one was hurt in two attempted attacks on Israeli soldiers in South Lebanon yesterday. In the first, a handgrenade was thrown south of the Zaharani River. In the second, in Sidon, small-arms fire was directed at an Israeli Defence Forces patrol.

After getting preferential aid from government

'Ghost factory' standing idle for 8 months

By LIORA MORIEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Whether the police are still investigating a suspected fraud, as the Ministry of Industry and Trade believes, or whether the case has been dropped, as manager Peter Thomas contends, the hard fact is that eight months after its gala opening, Mitzpe Ramon's asbestos plant has not yet gone into production.

Another hard fact is that on

November 17, 1983, the police fraud squad passed its file in the case to the district attorney in the Central District.

The number of the plant's employees is not easily ascertained. Thomas says he has 13 on his payroll. His lawyer, Reuven David-Ravid, says "five or six" and the chairman of the local council, Shmuel Cohen, says there are eight local workers. I saw two men in the huge plant during a surprise visit

there recently.

According to the press release given reporters last July 14, the day of the plant's opening, when German Ambassador Niels Hansen cut the ribbon tied around one of the newly painted machines, there should have been 50 workers now and 400 at full strength. The plant was supposed to give a real shot in the arm to Mitzpe Ramon, which has a population of 4,500.

"All the possible mistakes were

made — by the government as well because the plant is in Mitzpe Ramon," said one high-ranking source at the Industry and Trade Ministry. The head of the Beersheba Chamber of Commerce put it more bluntly: "The government bends over backwards to get investors to locate industries in development towns. But nobody checks very carefully into the investors' credentials."

Peter Thomas looks like an up-and-coming young executive, which is a major asset. He is handsome, polite and impeccably dressed. When he met Jorgen Leventraut, a West German industrialist, he quickly gained his confidence. What happened next depends on the source of the information.

"I persuaded him to put up a plant here in Israel," Thomas said. "He isn't Jewish and he could have taken the plant to Ireland, which was his original idea. He wanted me to manage his business there, but because I'm an Israeli I convinced him he could get the same terms in Israel."

A senior official in the Finance Ministry's Investment Authority, which was not party to the deal, said:

"Peter Thomas told pretty stories

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Emunah
The Religious National
Women's Organization

Community Council
Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh

announce the
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of the
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Doctors' threat cancels event honouring Shostak

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

A threat by doctors from all over the country to demonstrate against a ceremony at which Health Minister Eliezer Shostak and Ministry director-general Professor Baruch Modan were to have been honoured for "Service to the Country and the Nation" in the field of medicine has led to the cancellation of the ceremony.

At the ceremony, scheduled for April 1, the government-owned Coins and Medals Corporation was to award silver medals to Shostak, Modan and 14 doctors.

The country's doctors are irked by the fact that of six medals to be

awarded to hospital doctors, five were for employees of government hospitals. Furthermore, no medal for doctors in administration was to be awarded to Dr. Ram Ishai, president of the medical association. Of six medals for veteran physicians, three were to be given to members of the staff of the Hadassah hospitals in Jerusalem and three others to former deans of medical schools, whereas, it was said, there were other, no-less-deserving doctors.

Doctors around the country termed the planned ceremony "a slap in the face to all health-fund doctors and those in private practice."

Changed tax rules kill local liqueur

By YA'ACOV FRIEDLER
Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — A new Israeli liqueur has been killed by a change in the tax regulations — "unfairly," according to its developer, Mordechai Bash, a 61-year-old industrialist.

Bash told *The Jerusalem Post* that as a result of the change, which imposed the steep tax on the drink and not only on its alcoholic content, the price had been doubled, forcing him to close the Vinovita factory, half a year after opening. He appeals to the Industry Ministry to "make the rounds" of the different departments, despite a customs authorities recommendation for a reduction, and he had now missed the Industry Ministry's "make-event in the liqueur trade."

The factory employed seven workers and produced up to 1,000 bottles a day of colado-cream li-

queurs to compete, at half price, with the popular imported Pina Colada drink.

Using local materials and machinery he himself developed, Bash had created a liqueur that connoisseurs rated as good as the imported variety, if not better, and had carved out a good market for it.

He had planned to export the colado-cream liqueur and to produce another drink, honey-cream, which he developed to replace imported Irish cream.

He opened the factory 10 months ago, based on the calculation that the purchase tax, of 75 or 102.5 per cent (according to value) applied only to the alcohol content.

But in December the rules were changed and he was required to pay the tax on the whole bottle, which put him out of the market.

Bash has now appealed to the Trade and Industry Minister Gideon Patt.

Court flays police for beating witness

TEL AVIV (Itim). — The Tel Aviv District Court yesterday accused the police of humiliating, beating and breaking a witness and of concealing evidence in a murder case.

It did this when it published its reasons for its ruling on February 19 clearing Zeev Grunsky, 32, of Holon, of the 1982 murder of drug dealer David Lavi. The court ruled that the prosecution's case rested on the testimony of state witness Yona Salame, "who is dangerous and unreliable." His testimony is suspect and worth less than zero. The play of his imagination, his strangeness and lies — have

deranged him."

The prosecution, said the court, had produced corroborative testimony by Marco Cohen, but only after the police had humiliated, beaten and broken him. "They exploited the fact that Marco was a small man, gentle and eccentric," said the court.

Singling out Yosef Dahan, one of the police investigators, the court said: "His reports cannot be relied upon. Dahan lied to Marco and his lawyer. It can be assumed that the special investigative team even concealed evidence, as important documents are missing."

Canada to discuss expanding film pact

TEL AVIV (Itim). — An official Canadian delegation is to arrive next week to discuss broadening an agreement for the co-production of films with Israel, Gad Soen, director of the Industry and Trade Ministry's Israeli Film Centre, announced yesterday.

An existing bilateral agreement provides for the co-production of feature movies. It is hoped the expanded agreement will cover the

co-production of television films and various audio-visual productions.

In a related development, Industry and Trade Minister Gideon Patt told film industry representatives yesterday that the budget for encouraging local film production would not be cancelled. An effort would be made to preserve the size of the budget in real terms, said Patt. (Itim)

Contractor jailed for not filing tax returns

BEERSHEBA (Itim). — A local contractor yesterday was sentenced by the magistrates court to six months in prison and fined IS80,000 for not filing income tax returns.

The man, Elias Aish, was convicted in 1982 of not filing returns from 1975 to 1980, but the court delayed sentencing him to allow him time to file the missing returns. He did not do so and was taken to court this January, when he received a second extension. After he still failed to file, sentence was imposed yesterday.

Public campaign set to clean up Kishon

Jerusalem Post Reporter

HAIFA. — The Kishon River — reportedly the most polluted in the country — could be cleaned up and turned into a public amenity for the 350,000 citizens of this city and its suburbs, according to the Council for a Beautiful Israel.

The Council, with the aid of local authorities and industrial concerns, plans to establish an independent organization to tackle the problem of the river.

A start will be made at a public symposium organized by the council, due to be held at the Zion Hotel on Tuesday.

'Disturbed ideas must be tolerated,' says Zamir

By ABRAHAM RABINOVICH
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Letting the expression of "disturbed ideas" by Rabbi Meir Kahane go unpunished is the price a free society must pay, Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir said yesterday.

Addressing a meeting of the Tolerance Movement, Zamir revealed that there had been a sharp dispute within his office over whether or not to prosecute Kahane for his recent expression of support in a television interview for the alleged shooting up of an Arab bus by his followers. Terming Kahane's remarks a sacrilege, Zamir said: "In the long run, it is still right not to prosecute even in such an instance."

It was important for a free society to run the risks involved in tolerating such "verbal violence," leaving prosecution only for extreme cases of "clear and present danger." He said there was no more verbal violence today than in the past, but that Israeli society is today more conscious and less tolerant of it.

Mayor Teddy Kollek announced a \$1,000 annual prize for tolerance, funded by an anonymous donor through the Jerusalem Foundation.

He made it clear that the recipient will not be the Jerusalem municipal bureaucrat who recently sent out a demand for additional payments to 6,000 parents of children in municipal pre-kindergartens. Heavy with warnings about "steps will be taken" for non-payment, the letter constituted verbal violence. He said letters of apology would be sent to the letter's recipients.

Capital praised for preserving heritage

By D'VORA BEN SHAUL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

"Israel is doing a good job of preserving Jerusalem's architectural heritage," Jacob Aano of Norway, chairman of the Committee on Culture and Education of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe said yesterday.

Speaking informally with journalists, Aano said: "It seems to our committee that no complaint can be lodged against Israel in this area that could not be lodged against any city in the world."

Aano is here as head of a 37-member delegation of the Committee on Culture and Education of the Council of Europe. Alan Belth, from the UK, chairman of the subcommittee on the architectural and artistic heritage of Europe, added that the committee was pleasantly surprised to see that Israel, faced with other pressing problems, has devoted so much attention to preserving the architectural heritage of Jerusalem's Old City.

Haifa University suspends Arab leader

HAIFA. — The Haifa University disciplinary court has suspended Munir Makhoul, chairman of the Committee of the Arab Students, until the end of this semester.

Makhoul, a member of a left-wing organization that maintains close relations with Rakah, was charged with attacking the dean of the university during a lecture of former defence minister Ariel Sharon at the university on January 19.

Makhoul denied the allegations, saying that he was being victimized by the dean. His committee colleagues said in a statement yesterday that the suspension "is a conspiracy against all Arab students and another attempt to limit the political activity of Arab students on the campus."



Lt.-Gen. Fredrik Bull-Hansen (left) and Lt.-Gen. Egil Ingebrigtsen.

Outgoing MFO head praises Egypt, Israel

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Israel and Egypt have cooperated excellently in ensuring the peace in Sinai, Lieutenant-General Fredrik Bull-Hansen, outgoing commander of the Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), said yesterday. Bull-Hansen will hand over command to fellow Norwegian Lt.-Gen. Egil Ingebrigtsen in a ceremony at the forces' headquarters at Al-Gorah next Tuesday.

Bull-Hansen told a press conference here yesterday that the sincere desire for peace of both parties had been one of the prime reasons for the MFO's success. He

added that the few violations the MFO had encountered had been minor, and there had been no violence of a serious nature against the MFO or any of the other parties.

Bull-Hansen said that most of the MFO's 10 member countries had agreed to renew their participation in the force, and that he expected a firm reply from all in the near future.

Bull-Hansen, who has served as MFO commander since October 1981, has been appointed Norway's chief of defence. Incoming commander Ingebrigtsen is a veteran UN officer and served with UNTSO in northern Israel in the Seventies.

GHOST FACTORY

(Continued from Page One)

in all directions. He told Leventraut how to get the best terms and he was the one who presented the programme to the government. Thomas took the investor around the various government ministries and made a good impression," he said.

According to Moni Lerer, special adviser on development areas to the Industry and Trade Ministry, the investor's factory, in need of modernising, was looking for a place to relocate one of its lines of production. The idea Thomas gave Leventraut, Lerer says, was to make a double profit: by moving the line to a new plant in Israel, and in a distant area.

The idea worked — at first. "Because the location was to be Mitzpe Ramon and the investor was a non-Jewish German, whom we wanted to help, we tried to meet him more than halfway," said Yehoshua (Shuki) Fohrer, Industry and Trade Ministry director-general.

Thus, the government's Investment Centre, possibly for the first time, authorized impressive loans and grants to the investor even though he was bringing in admittedly old machines.

But lawyer David-Ravid says: "We have an agreement with the Investment Centre, from 1980/81, to move an existing production line from the parent company in Germany to Mitzpe Ramon. We never said the machines were new. Now we have no money to get the rest of them and start production properly, because the government is not carrying out its part of the agreement," he says.

Once the government authorized the deal even though the machines were not new — a mistake now readily admitted — there remained the problem of assessing their worth for setting loans, grants and terms of payment.

The appraiser in Germany, who David-Ravid says was acceptable to the Israeli commercial attaché in Bonn, pegged the machines at a figure considered at least twice as

much as they were worth, according to government officials.

"The government decided the machines were worth only half what the German assessor said. They were reassessed, and this took four or five months," said Thomas.

"The machines were comparable with the German parent company's production so that the plant in Mitzpe Ramon could start working immediately, saving two years at least. It was like relocating a producing plant, at a fraction of the cost," he said.

When it was finally decided that the machines were worth less than the original assessment, the government wanted to offer less favourable financial terms. Because of the rapid inflation and the fact that the grants and loans are not linked to any index, the investor would have received very little financial help.

At that point, Leventraut threatened to move the plant to Ireland after all.

"The problem is that we have lost confidence in the Israeli investor, Peter Thomas," said Fohrer. "We did not make a mistake in authorizing the plant, nor did we make a mistake in deciding not to continue giving him preferential treatment. Let him put up some money of his own and see what he can produce."

Thomas is trying hard. He says that he has monthly expenses of \$25,000 in Mitzpe Ramon, but adds that he recently won several defence contracts worth millions of German marks. "The company doesn't owe anyone any money, but the government owes us money," he claims.

Lerer said that the government has just solved the problem of financial erosion: "Some of the money has already been passed to the company."

Both sides apparently agreed that new machines should now be introduced.

But Lerer says he began feeling things were awry when the Industrial Development Bank of Israel, which processes loans to industry, became suspicious of one of the documents Thomas had presented. The police were then alerted.

Local council chairman Shmuel Cohen, wants to believe everything will work out in the end. "I will do everything possible so that the plant gets to work, because it could be a great boost to the town," he said.

Soviet delegation here has clear answers to all questions

By ROY ISACOWITZ
Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — There is no such thing as a "Jewish question" in the Soviet Union; progress in solving the Israel-Arab conflict depends entirely on Israeli concessions; Soviet policy in the Chernenko era will remain exactly as it has been in the past.

That is the message of a four-member Soviet delegation that has spent a week in Israel as guests of a public committee of representatives of Israeli peace movements. The delegation is due to return to the Soviet Union today.

Delegation leader Yuri Barabash, chief editor of the *Sovetskaya Kultura* (Soviet Culture) newspaper and president of the Soviet Committee for Solidarity and Friendship with the Palestinian People, told *The Jerusalem Post* yesterday that, while in Israel, the group had tried to give the "true picture" concerning Soviet Jewry. That picture, he said, is that the Jews in the Soviet Union have no specific problems. The problem is caused by people who do not have accurate information on the subject, or by those with an anti-Soviet bias.

Barabash was not troubled by the small demonstration for Soviet Jewry by the 35s Group outside the headquarters of the Israel-Soviet Friendship League.

Barabash said that the delegation had encountered a lot of good will during its visit and had found a desire to better understand Soviet policy. He said that, in his opinion,

peace sentiment in Israel was growing, and a considerable majority of the Israeli public disagreed with the "aggressive political trend" in the country.

But he was not optimistic that there would be a thaw in the diplomatic freeze between the two countries soon. The resumption of diplomatic relations depended on a fundamental modification of the political trend in Israel and the renunciation by Israel of "anti-Sovietism," he said. He refused to say whether he believed the PLO would recognise Israel. Israel should first recognise the PLO as a negotiating partner and then maybe it would get an answer, he said.

Asked whether any change could be expected in Soviet policy during the Chernenko era, Barabash replied that the Soviet Union does not identify specific eras. Chernenko and other party members have underlined the continuity of Soviet policies.

Delegation member Yuri Drosdov, director of the Africa-Middle East department of the Soviet Peace Committee, said that Soviet suffering since early in this century had made the Soviet people especially sensitive to peace. However, he did not believe that Jewish suffering had done the same for Israelis. Whereas the Soviets had become internationalist, Israelis had become isolationist, he said.

"We only have sympathy for those who think along the same lines as we do," Drosdov said.

'Druse bridge to brothers in Lebanon'

By JUDY SIEGEL
Jerusalem Post Reporter

Israeli Druse must serve as a "loyal bridge" to their brothers in Lebanon and ensure that "Lebanon will not serve as a base for attack against Israel."

This appeal was made yesterday by President Chaim Herzog at a Beit Hanassi meeting that he initiated with representatives of the country's 12 Druse localities.

The president accepted their invitation to visit Druse villages soon, saying he wished to meet the population in their streets and homes. The Druse officials were introduced to Herzog by his adviser on minority affairs, Kamal Mansour.

Shafik Assad, head of the Beit Jann local council, told Herzog of the urgent need for supplementary funding for Druse local authorities, since the shortfall between their needs and their treasuries was considerable. He added that the Druse of Israel identify completely with the state and the Jewish people, despite being Arabs. But he bemoaned the gap in industry, development, education and housing between the Druse and the Jews.

The chairman of the Ustiya local council, Raslan Abu Rukne, thanked the Israeli authorities for the dramatic improvements over the years in the conditions of Druse villages. But he said that since the Druse have contributed to the country's defence and to other fields in a proportion beyond their numbers, "there has been an imbalance between what we give and what we receive."

Herzog responded that he was well aware of the problems and needs of the Druse minority, and that he was sure that recommendations soon to be made by the ministerial committee on the Druse would be implemented.

Herzog noted that the last two years, since the Lebanon war, had been a trying period for Israeli Druse. He had last visited them at the funerals of Druse victims of the Tyre bomb outrage, and was impressed by their "nobility, courage and pride" in the face of tragedy.

RETRACTION

On 28 June 1983, *The Jerusalem Post Supplement* published an interview by Mr. Mark Segal of *The Post* with Mr. Milton E. Harris, President of the Canadian Jewish Congress, in which it was stated that Mr. Theodore Arcand, Canadian Ambassador to Hungary, "had a notorious cousin who was the Führer of the Canadian Nazi Party during the Forties." This statement was refuted by the Canadian Ambassador to Israel in a letter to *The Jerusalem Post* which was published on July 17. Subsequently, Mr. Harris, in a letter to *The Jerusalem Post* which was published on August 18, admitted that there was no basis in fact for his statement. It is therefore clear that the statement is completely untrue and accordingly *The Jerusalem Post* hereby retracts it without qualification. *The Jerusalem Post* joins Mr. Harris in regretting the embarrassment to Ambassador Arcand and his family.

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Nicaragua blames U.S. for mining Soviet ship

MANAGUA (Reuters). — Nicaragua's junta coordinator Daniel Ortega has blamed the U.S. for the mining of a Soviet oil tanker in a Nicaraguan port as a diplomatic storm erupted over the incident.

"The government of the U.S. is solely responsible (for the mining)," Ortega told journalists on his return from a 24-hour visit to Mexico on Wednesday.

The Lugansk, which was carrying 250,000 barrels of oil, struck a mine on Tuesday as it approached Puerto Sandino, about 50 kilometres west of Managua.

In Moscow, the Soviet Union said

on Wednesday that the U.S. was responsible for the mine explosion. Foreign Minister Andrei Gromyko handed a protest note on Tuesday to U.S. charge d'affaires Warren Zimmermann, the official news agency Tass reported.

According to a text distributed by Tass, the protest note said "the Soviet government holds the U.S. government responsible for that grave crime, an act of banditry and piracy."

Novosti, the number two government news agency, blamed President Ronald Reagan for what it called "a despicable act of banditry."

Tass charged the mine was planted by U.S.-backed Nicaraguan rebels with "the direct participation of agencies and persons controlled by the U.S. government."

The Central Intelligence Agency backs rebels fighting to oust Nicaragua's leftist Sandinista rulers. A State Department spokesman in Washington, Alan Romberg, rejected the Soviet charges.

To a great extent, he said, "these regional dangers and tensions result from Soviet encouragement of conflict in Central America and the Caribbean and therefore the Soviets are hardly in a position to blame

others for an increase in violence there."

The Lugansk limped into port on Wednesday and unloaded its cargo — about two weeks' supply of oil for Nicaragua. Two Soviet crewmen were injured in the incident and were being treated at a Soviet hospital near the port.

Commander Manuel Calderon, assistant chief of the National Security Directorate, said a U.S. frigate was spotted in Puerto Sandino five days earlier and that helicopters taking off from the frigate may have planted the mines in the port.

Hong Kong man hijacks plane to Taiwan

TAIPEI (AP). — A Hong Kong citizen, who claimed he was armed with explosives, hijacked a Peking-bound British Airways jumbo jet to Taiwan yesterday and asked for political asylum, nationalist Chinese officials said.

The hijacker, identified as Liang Wei-jang, 28, surrendered peacefully when the plane landed at Taiwan's Chiang Kai-shek Airport in suburban Taipei after a flight from Hong Kong. Security officials said they found no explosives or other weapons on him.

The officials said the 337 other passengers and 17 crewmen including an airline engineer aboard British Airways flight 003 were not hurt, and they later left for Hong Kong where arrangements were being made to book them on other flights to Peking, probably today.

Liang, nationalist officials said, had originally informed them he was from Guangdong province in southern China, but later investigation disclosed he had a Hong Kong identification card, a document issued to Hong Kong residents.

UK postpones decision on EC budget

LONDON (Reuters). — Britain postponed a decision yesterday on withholding payments to the European Community following the collapse of the Brussels summit.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told Parliament the government would await the outcome of a meeting of the Ten's foreign ministers scheduled for next Tuesday.

The cabinet met for three hours yesterday to discuss Britain's next

move in the long-standing row over its funding of the community budget.

Thatcher said in Parliament after the meeting that Britain would take no action that would damage the prospects of a solution to the crisis next week.

She said the government would consider demands from the cash starved community for a special supplementary levy in the light of what happened at next week's meeting.

She said the foreign ministers would be picking up where the failed summit left off on Tuesday in trying to seek a long-term settlement of the community's financial problems.

The Brussels summit foundered over Britain's demands to reform the community budget and reduce its contributions. Britain is the second largest net contributor to the trading bloc after the German Federal Republic.

Beardless Pakistanis may be barred from office

ISLAMABAD, Pakistan (AP). — Muslims who do not sport beards may be disqualified from contesting parliamentary elections or holding important public offices, sources said yesterday.

The government's Council of Islamic Ideology, the official monitor of what is Islamic and what is not, has reportedly advised the administration — that according to Islamic law, non-bearded Muslims are committing a "cardinal sin."

British miners picket for 11th day

LONDON (AP). — In an attempt to bring the British coal industry to a halt, hundreds of protesting miners picketed mines that remained open yesterday on the 11th day of a national walkout.

The police arrested 11 pickets, bringing to 58 the number detained since the strike began, but no fresh disturbances were reported. Fourteen strikers were arrested on Wednesday night after scuffles with police.

A spokesman for the state-run National Coal Board said 38 of Britain's 174 coal mines were working

normally yesterday morning, four more than on Wednesday. The industry employs 183,000 men.

The police said an estimated 1,000 miners from outside areas set up picket lines at the Thoresby and Blidworth collieries in the central England county of Nottinghamshire.

Most of Wednesday's arrests were in Nottinghamshire, which, with 25 mines and 34,000 miners, is Britain's second most important coal-mining area after Yorkshire, in northern England.

Traditional moderates, Not-

tinghamshire miners voted 3-1 last week against joining the strike launched March 12 by militants in Scotland and South Wales and in Yorkshire, Durham in northeast England and Kent in the southeast.

The strike is over a cost-cutting decision by the state-run National Coal Board to close 20 mines and cut 20,000 jobs in the next 12 months.

The walkout is backed by the left-dominated 24-member executive of the National Union of Mineworkers.

Indian police 'go berserk,' leaving many dead, missing

NEW DELHI (AP). — About 300 people are missing and may have died when rampaging police set fire to their colony Monday during the dock strike in Paradip, the *Hindustan Times* reported yesterday.

Eleven persons are confirmed dead, 100 are injured and 1,500 are homeless in the razed, burned-out shantytown, said the newspaper, a mass-circulation English-language daily. It quoted its reporter at the scene in eastern Orissa State.

Earlier police reports said nine persons, including four police, were killed when police intervened to stop fighting by two rival groups of day labourers during India's port strike.

The report in the *Hindustan Times* could not be immediately confirmed, and it was not possible to contact Paradip officials by telephone.

The newspaper reported that

police "went berserk" Monday and set fire to a labourer's colony after four policemen were lynched while trying to settle the labourers' dispute.

About 300 workers also have been reported missing since the labourers' colony was set on fire, the report said, adding that number "tallied" with the possible death toll.

The 300,000 striking dockworkers have agreed to renew negotiations with the government on demands for higher pay and benefits in the wake of a clash between police and longshoremen that left nine persons dead.

The walkout, now in its eighth day, has brought India's overseas trade to a halt during the peak export season, reportedly costing the country 1 billion rupees (\$100 million) per day.

About 185 ships were reported stranded at the 10 Indian ports.

Mondale, Hart contend for N.Y. Democratic vote

NEW YORK (Reuters). — New York has become the next big battlefield for the Democratic presidential nomination with squabbling professional politicians lining up behind Walter Mondale and Gary Hart.

After his narrow loss to Mondale in Tuesday's Illinois primary, Colorado's Senator Hart intends to turn the New York contest on April 3 into a major fight.

"We are going to run a very, very serious delegate campaign in New York," he said, brushing aside former vice-president Mondale's rejuvenating victory in Illinois.

Hundreds of people were volunteering to help Hart, while Mondale was depending on the state's political leadership and trade unions to get voters out for him.

Mondale's list of backers reads like "Who's Who" of New York politics.

He is supported by Governor Mario Cuomo, New York Mayor Edward Koch, Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan, New York City Council President Carol Bellamy and all the major unions.

Hart finds himself strapped for cash in a fight that could be determined by an effective and expensive television advertising blitz.

Traditionally, about a third of primary voters in a Democratic contest are Jewish. Hart and Mondale split the Jewish vote in Illinois, but Mondale has strong Jewish support in New York.

PARK. — A part of New York's sprawling Central Park was formally renamed Strawberry Fields and dedicated yesterday to the memory of ex-Beatle John Lennon, who was assassinated across the street from the site in 1980.

U.S. carrier, Soviet sub collide off Korean coast

SEOUL (Reuters). — A Soviet nuclear-powered submarine shadowing major American-South Korean war games was in collision with the 80,000-ton U.S. aircraft carrier Kitty Hawk in the Sea of Japan on Wednesday night.

U.S. Seventh Fleet Commander Steve Honda said the Kitty Hawk's crew felt the giant vessel shudder and saw the Victor class Soviet submarine moving away after the collision off South Korea's east coast.

A helicopter from the Kitty Hawk

reported that the submarine appeared undamaged but stayed on the surface, Honda said.

The Kitty Hawk and other U.S. warships stayed at the scene but the submarine had not responded to offers of assistance, Honda added.

Another Soviet vessel, the guided missile cruiser Petropavlovsk, was in the area.

The Victor class, among the newest hunter-killer submarines in the Soviet fleet, normally carry a crew of about 90.

Sports

SOCCER PREVIEW

Double-header of class

Post Sports Staff

Not only devoted fans of the four teams involved, but connoisseurs of soccer as well, are expected to flock to the Bloomfield Stadium for the season — Shimshon versus Maccabi Haifa in the first game, and Maccabi Tel Aviv versus Betar Jerusalem in the second.

There is first the element of drama provided by the fact that three of these teams — Betar Jerusalem in first place, Maccabi Haifa in third and Maccabi Tel Aviv in fourth — are bidding for championship honours, while the last team, Shimshon, lying sixth, are not out of the running completely. But there is also another factor: all four sides play fluent, flowing, attractive aggressive soccer. Bloomfield is far and away the best ground in the country, and its surface suits the style of football all these four teams provide.

In fact, Betar Jerusalem are finding the going so rough at their home ground, YMCA Jerusalem, that they are negotiating with Hapoel Tel Aviv about returning to Bloomfield, where they did so well

for so long early in the season. If they win tomorrow, they may well, as the politicians put it, draw the necessary conclusion.

A lot will depend on whether Vicky Peretz is fit to turn out for Maccabi Tel Aviv. His team has managed to blend bright young players with some of the best veterans in the country. Avi Cohen, who gave an impression for some time after he returned from Liverpool that his heart was not in the Israeli league game, has really been doing his utmost for his side with excellent results. But, if Peretz does not turn out, his absence may blunt the Maccabi attack.

Maccabi Haifa have become one of the most attractive teams in the country, with fast, fashionable, goal-hungry forwards in Zali Arad and Moshe Schager to power on chances provided by the imaginative play of the defence. But Shimshon are at their best when they play against teams producing real soccer rather than defensive bankers.

Another game that will have a decisive effect on the league table will be between Be'er Sheva and Hapoel Tel Aviv in the Negbe capital. Hapoel Tel Aviv, who are currently in fourth place, want to win this away match: Be'er Sheva, lying sixth, may take things easy. But they always like to win at home, and Hapoel Tel Aviv are always keen to play the role of giant-killers. Other games: Lok v. Yotam; Netanya v. Be'er Sheva; Betar TA v. Jaffa; Hapoel Maccabi Peta Tikva; Ashdod v. Yotam.

Britain's glorious night

LONDON (AP). — British soccer clubs enjoyed a spectacular night of success on Wednesday, providing two semi-finals in each of the three European Cup competitions.

All six British teams still in contention for European honours advanced to the last four of their respective tournaments, and thus provide half the teams involved.

Pride of place went to Liverpool, who brought off a magnificent 4-1 victory away from home against Benfica of Lisbon in the Champions Cup, while Manchester United and Aberdeen each managed to wipe out a two-goal deficit in the Cupwinners Cup.

Liverpool, three-time winners of the Champions Cup in the 1970s, took a slender 1-0 from Anfield to the "stadium of light" in Lisbon.

They refused to be intimidated by a huge and hostile 75,000 home crowd.

Midfielder Ronnie Whelan fired the English team ahead after nine minutes and Craig Johnston added a second before half-time.

Nene pulled one goal back after 74 minutes, but Liverpool added further goals in the last 10 minutes through Whelan — his second — and ace marksman Ian Rush.

Scottish champions Dundee United reached their first ever European semi-final. They joined Liverpool in the last four of the Champions Cup with a narrow 1-0 home win against Rapid Vienna of Austria. The first leg had ended 2-1 to Vienna so the Scots were through on the "away goals" rule.

Italian champions Roma, who played in the leg used for the Champions Cup final in May, lost 1-2 against Dynamo Berlin but qualified for the semi-finals on a 4-2 aggregate score. Dynamo Bucharest also reached the last four, disposing of Dinamo Minsk of the Soviet Union on an overall 2-1 scoreline.

Aberdeen, holders of the Cupwinners Cup, looked to be losing their grip on the trophy with three minutes remaining of their home game against Ujpest Doms of Hungary.

Aberdeen lost the first leg 3-2 and had managed to pull back only one goal when Mark McGhee powered in the 87th minute on a chance to level the aggregate score.

McGhee, who also scored Aberdeen's 11th minute opener, completed a magnificent hat-trick four minutes into extra time as the Scottish side produced a sensational comeback.

Manchester United achieved an identical feat in the same competition, the cup of 48 crack Spanish side, Barcelona. English captain Bryan Robson scored two goals, one after half-time, and Frank Stapleton netted a third as United wiped out on 6-3 first leg deficit in Spain to reach the semi-finals.

Shlomo's fight

Post Sports Staff

Unseeded Shlomo Glickstein put up a game but unavailing fight against Henry Leconte, the young French Davis Cup star, in the second round of the \$365,000 Canon Cup Tennis Tournament in Milan.

Glickstein was beaten 7-5, 6-3. Other players going through to the quarter-finals are Vitas Gerulaitis, John Fitzgerald, Jakob Hlasek, He Nantana, Kevin Curren, Stefan Edberg, and Brad Drewett.

In the women's \$150,000 tournament in Dublin, Helena Sukova trounced 14-year-old Michelle Gurney 6-3, 6-3. Martina Navratilova has withdrawn owing to an injury.

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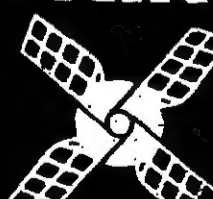
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THREE YEARS of self-imposed silence probably would have spelled the end of any other political figure. But the power of Ezer Weizman's appeal may be measured by the magnitude of the reverberations his sudden reappearance on the political scene has caused.

His adversaries are already busy reeling from the new phase in the former defence minister's career as "Weizman's Last Hurrah." But even Ezer's most severe critics cannot ignore that, the moment he broke his vow of silence, he made the entire system jump.

There are those who found Weizman's *Mabat* appearance on Tuesday night wanting in substance; no one can deny that Weizman possesses that special, if intangible quality invaluable to any politician. Call it charm, call it charisma, call it what you please — Ezer Weizman has it in abundance.

In his return to public life, Ezer brings with him some definite assets and some clear liabilities. On the plus side is the tremendous benefit of his instant recognizability; no one "Israel" will ever ask "Ezer who?" This is of the greatest possible help to anyone intending to build a political organization from scratch. Ezer is on affectionate, first-name terms with most of the country, something that cannot be said of many other public personalities.

But he does not come back to politics with an entirely clean slate. He has a record, this scion of the Zionist aristocracy who carries with him into his sixth decade the aura of Israel's golden youth.

On the foundation of his past as a war hero and architect of Israel's air power, Ezer built a solid reputation as defence minister, and as one of the major enablers of the Camp David peace process.

But he still bears the burden of reputation for impulsiveness, for shooting from the hip, emphasized by the abrupt way in which he bolted from the cabinet back in 1980. And there remains a residue of bitterness among his former allies in the Likud, whom he brought to power as head of the successful 1977 election campaign.

The Ezer we saw on TV at midweek was not exactly the Ezer we all remember; a much more sober persona was presented to the public. The dark suit and tie drove home the new image, accentuating

what some saw as a clear resemblance to his revered uncle, Israel's first president, Chaim Weizmann.

ADMIRERS of vintage Ezer need have no fear. The super-sabra with the impish grin is still very much in evidence. I found his temporary office buzzing like a beehive with TV crews and newsmen, plus old friends offering their support. It is currently housed on the business premises of Rafi Unger, his partner in the car agency business, but he will shortly move to an adjoining building from which his new party will operate. Its name is not yet definite, although I have heard rumours of an acronym like Mahal, which echoes old Likud slogans, or something that indicates revival or renaissance.

I managed to squeeze in a conversation with him between the shoal of incoming phone calls. When one former aide of Ariel Sharon asked him what he needed, he replied cheerily: "About 350,000 voters." I also witnessed telephone conversations with Premier Yitzhak Shamir and Labour Party chairman Shimon Peres, when he extended his best wishes for a good, clean election campaign to the leaders of the two big party blocs.

The main burden of Ezer's message to the electorate at the onset of his campaign is that "the country is faced by its gravest leadership crisis ever" and that he has the answer to this problem. He believes this to be the core of the Likud's failure, echoing the charge of the late deputy premier Simcha Ehrlich that the Likud lacked the culture of government. He may be short on ideology, but he pointed out that between a party's platform and its performance there is often a huge gap. "What counts is the kind of leadership it offers."

"By leadership," he explained, "I don't mean someone who claims to offer panaceas for each and every problem. Leadership should awaken hope, and plant the feeling of confidence that things will work out for the best." Weizman believes that the right leader in the right place at the right time can make a world of difference — like Ronald Reagan, Margaret Thatcher, and Menachem Begin in his prime, "capable of finding solutions to the toughest problems."

which necessarily involves putting off hard economic decisions and may, in the long run, hurt the economy more, does not have to be all that politically advantageous to the government.

LEAVING date considerations aside, what is the political situation today from the viewpoint of public opinion? Historically speaking, the first year and a half of the second Likud government, from June 30, 1981 to the end of 1982, was a peak period of government popularity — all polls gave the Likud a substantial lead over the Labour opposition.

Government popularity was especially high after the Lebanese war started and continued will after the Sabra and Shatila massacres. Likud popularity first began to fall after the stock market collapsed in January 1983.

However, the loss of government support caused by this event was small and through most of 1983 the government continued to enjoy a greater lead over the opposition than in the 1981 elections — this despite increasing public dissatisfaction with developments in Lebanon and a darkening economic horizon. The public basked in the sun of rapidly increasing private consumption and enjoyed it.

All this changed after the October 6 devaluation and bank shares disaster. However, considering the suddenness and seriousness of the economic turnaround, the political reaction of the public was indeed slow. The Alignment slowly passed the Likud in the Smith Research Centre polls; the Alignment advantage over the Likud built up to 6-7



'I only decided to speak out once I decided to act,' says Ezer Weizman, in an interview with Post Political Correspondent Mark Segal.

Call it charisma

He firmly denied that Tami's early-election bombshell had impelled him to unveil his plans immediately, thereby catching his friends and supporters unawares. On the contrary, he emphasized that having concluded that elections were inevitable during 1984, he had started putting an organization together three months ago. Obviously, the moment the electoral bandwagon started rolling he had to act.

Weizman assured me that his people were already working on a detailed electoral platform and preparing a list of credible candidates. His programme would include ideas on how best to tackle Israel's political, economic and social problems. He promised to go public with the outline of his programme and his list within 10 days.

(While he was not forthcoming with names, I was advised from other sources that the party's think-tank will be headed by Aluf Avraham (Abrasha) Tamir who headed the Defence Ministry's strategic planning division and is about to leave the IDF after 25 years' service. His list's top names will probably include those of Aluf (res.) Mordechai Hod, his successor as IAF commander; Aluf (res.) Avigdor (Yanosh) Ben-Gal, formerly O.C. Northern Command; Tat Aluf Benyamin (Fuad) Ben-Eliezer, currently coordinator of civilian activities in the territories; and former El Al chairman Avraham (Buma) Shavit.)

HE HAD BEEN weighing up the idea of going it alone for some time, he said, having decided that Herut was now alien to him. He was bitter-

ly disappointed in his old party and its failure to live up to its promises to the nation.

"They should be made to pay for the mess they have got us all into, and for wasting all the opportunities they had, especially the chance of extending the peace with Egypt. I cannot and will not be a partner to those who were responsible for the deaths of nearly 600 soldiers in Lebanon," he declared, reiterating his decision not to join forces with any member of the present Knesset, especially those who voted for the Lebanon misadventure.

Was he for unilateral withdrawal? The former defence minister spoke of pulling back to the international border in stages, but at a much faster pace than hitherto proposed. Here he pointed out: "It is a fact that even before the war, we moved in and out of a security belt of 10

kilometres inside Lebanon which everyone used to call Haddadland. In my opinion, eventually we should withdraw to the international border with suitable security arrangements there."

He would not criticize the original premise of Operation Peace for Galilee, although he strongly doubted whether, if he had remained at the Defence Ministry, he would have gone in the way his successor, Ariel Sharon, had. After all, he did launch Operation Litani back in 1978 and he considered it to have been justified and successful.

When I raised the question of why he had kept silent these past three years while the blood of our youth was being spilled, he replied:

"I only decided to speak out once I had decided to act. Talk comes too cheap in this country, and it's easy to criticize if one does not have any responsibility. Although I must note that I found it quite reprehensible that so many cabinet ministers keep attacking the government and yet continue to sit on its bench. I thought I was acting in the most democratic manner. I disagreed with the path the government was following, feeling it was dissipating the great prospect of peace, so I resigned."

He had seen no point in "pouring oil on the boiling blood" without being able to do anything about it, so he had kept silent. His conscience was clear on this issue, especially as he had quit the government on a matter of principle having felt that the possibility of achieving peace was being whittled away.

He added: "Apart from which, what stronger proof do you require regarding maintaining silence than Menachem Begin's conduct? He has spoken even less than I have and he shares responsibility for what happened."

He made a reckoning of his old party's record.

"Everything the Likud touched went sour — peace, the economy, social unity and religion. I had a share in the peace treaty and look at it now — as cold as the coldest ice. As for the settlement policy, I have certain questions about it, but I am talking of the issue from the Likud's vantage point. It's the keystone of their ideology and their government guide-lines. Yet, after seven years in office plus three years, when Begin

was in the national unity government, only 30,000 Jews live in the West Bank and Gaza. That can hardly be called a resounding success, and don't forget, many of the settlements were established under Labour."

His prime aim, should he be part of the next government, would be to devote himself to salvage what was left of the Camp David process.

"It has become a shadow of the original aspiration. The people have lost faith in it because of the meagre interest taken in this sphere by the Likud government... I have fought Arabs all my life and have also made peace with them. There is no easy solution available and no magic wand to be waved. With the right kind of leadership, I believe we can make substantial progress in reaching an accommodation with our other neighbours, including Jordan and Syria."

"We have to learn to coexist with our Arab neighbours. But I do not say at any price, nor do I accept Moshe Dayan's prognosis that we will have to live by the sword for eternity. The Likud opened the way to a comprehensive peace settlement, starting with Egypt, and then debilitated the peace process. We can tackle the Palestinian-Israeli problem, for we have to face the reality of two million Arabs coexisting alongside three and a quarter million Jews in the enlarged Land of Israel."

As to the parliamentary situation, in principle he favoured the system of two parties, one in power and one in opposition. However, "in reality it does not work out that way, and there are a number of smaller parties. But I would like to belong to one of the bigger blocs."

Assuring me that other questions would get an answer in due cause, Weizman brought the interview to an end. As I left, I was suddenly struck by the similarity between the message he was promoting and that adopted by Gary Hart in the U.S. Democratic primaries. "An end to the old politics and the tired politicians. I offer you a new leadership in a new era."

Whatever the outcome of the Weizman campaign, one thing is already certain: it is palpably adding a measure of fun and a dash of colour that has been missing from our political arena so far.

GOULASH POLITICS

By RAFI AND HANOCH SMITH/Special to the Jerusalem Post

per cent in the December poll among Jews — meaning about 9 per cent in the total population — not quite enough to form a government without taking in coalition partners from the present government.

But since that time the trend to the Alignment from the Likud has apparently slowed down or ceased altogether. In recent days, signs of renewed economic activity have been reported in the media. Consumer durables, including cars, are being bought again; large numbers of people are scheduling flights abroad, and so on. A feeling that the mini-recession is over has begun to spread among the public. If only inflation could be contained, all would be well again. This new feeling emerged just before the Tami election decision was announced. As a result, the Alignment lead over the Likud may even have narrowed.

THUS THE situation on the eve of the Tami decision was that the Alignment held a small lead over the Likud, but not enough to give it any solid advantage for the election campaign itself.

However, little attention has been paid to the hardening of political attitudes in both camps. Government supporters tend to remain unrepentant hawks and still

feel gratitude for the tremendous personal economic improvements in the over two and a half years of Aridor's "correct" economics.

The opposition has also hardened against the government. Those Alignment voters who appreciated the Likud more during the first two years of the government's second term seem to have rejoined the main body in solid opposition to the government.

The actual floating vote is smaller than it seems. And those who have come over to the Alignment from the Likud have tended to come over for economic reasons. The Israeli voter, like many others, is vulnerable to goulash politics.

But the political scene is much more complex than simple goulash politics would suggest. The present team leading the Likud — Yitzhak Shamir, Moshe Arens, David Levy and Yigal Cohen-Orad — enjoy considerable public respect for the jobs they are currently doing, possibly as high as any Begin-led team in the past. However, they are extremely vulnerable when it comes to issues. The Lebanese war is unpopular and the government is very heavily criticized on the economy. So despite the popularity of the government's leaders, the Labour opposition leads in the polls.

IT IS EASY to overestimate the importance of the leaders on voting behaviour in Israel. The above analysis suggests that both the Likud and Labour have their work cut out for them in the coming elections.

The Likud has the undoubted advantage of being in-power and being in "control" of vast resources. However, because of the present economic crisis, these resources cannot be utilized as Aridor utilized them in the 1981 campaign. The government must prove that it is different from the Begin-Aridor government insofar as management of the economy is concerned — not an easy task in a short period. It must also seek credible solutions to the Lebanese imbroglio.

The Alignment's job is no less difficult. It has the advantage of being able to snipe at a long list of economic and political failures. But it will have difficulty doing this persuasively unless it can produce policies that are more credible than the Likud's; it must also present leaders on political, foreign policy, defence, economic and social issues who as a team can stand up to the new Likud team.

To keep shooting at the already dead ducks of the Aridor period will not be enough if the opposition is to win the coming elections. It must stand up to the new Likud team led by Shamir, which is trying to remedy the mistakes made by the earlier regime; Labour must prove that this new team is going wrong and show how Labour itself could better solve Israel's problems in all areas. To do this the Alignment requires as powerful a team as it can put together, with clear and credible policy alternatives.

IF BOTH sides maximize their effective strategies the likely result is

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a close vote, with the final outcome depending on economic, political and military events occurring close to the election day.

Other factors may intervene as well — disputes within the major parties and the emergence of new parties or political configurations. If the contest between the two political giants remains close, it is unlikely that new parties like that of Ezer Weizman will garner significant percentages of the voters, although they can influence which major party has the largest vote.

As things stand today, no great political changes are envisioned in

elections in 1984, no matter which month they are held in. But it would be foolish to make a definite prediction. Campaigns rarely turn out as expected; unexpected events always occur; the public is never really predictable in its political behaviour.

The Likud appears vulnerable; but it is by no means certain that the Alignment will be able to exploit that vulnerability. While the prediction that there will be little significant change appears the safest, it may not be accurate. We strongly suspect that surprises are in store.

Hanoch Smith is one of Israel's leading electoral analysts. This article was written with his collaborator and son Rafi.

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Daniel Gavron reports.

How can one explain this feverish — almost hysterical — reaction to an isolated, ineffective bombing raid? Professor Mordechai Abir of

There have been more than a dozen attempted coups against



...Egypt on the other hand, is determined to keep the friendly neutrals in power, and the U.S. also supports the pro-western leader, which explains this week's stable flurry of activity on the part of these two countries in support of the existing Sudanese regime.

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western-educated intellectuals to dominate the government. When Numeiri seized power in a military coup in 1969, he was perceived as a Sudanese Nasser, who would establish a "socialist" regime. He turned out to be a disappointment to the radicals. He was a moderate, middle-class, pro-

...Egypt, on the other hand, is determined to keep the friendly Mumeiri in power, and the U.S. also supports the pro-western leader... this which explains this week's veritable flurry of activity on the part of these two countries in support of the existing Sudanese regime.

...time.

10 pm. Friday 15 3 -

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...for these concerns. (b)(7)(F)

Step by step towards peace

By WALTER EYTAN

JOHN BARTLETT's *Quotations*, first published 22 years ago, is nothing if not a date. The latest edition brings together dicta not only from John,annon, Bob Dylan and Andy Warhol, but also from Menachem Begin and Yasser Arafat. Guess now who wrote this: "If you love your country, you cannot but hate those who seek to annex it." You're right, it was the former prime minister, Israel in *The Revolt* (1951).

Most such sayings, the nature of things, are quoted in context — doubtless this one, too. It fits nicely into any other context, however, applicable to everyone. King Abdullah asked what he called his West Bank and the people there remained, often rebellious, during a Hashemite rule. There were times when King Hussein dared not show his face in Nabulus. They are just and rebellious still under Israel's rule, coming, more and more, to feel themselves annexed in fact, if not in law.

Any Israelis, and Jews elsewhere, seeing Judea-Samaria as their country, resist its being annexed from the by others. If one thing, in a complex situation, seems as clear as anything is that Israel will never abandon its rights in this part of the Land, and that no Arab will ever give up its claim to it either. India and Pakistan have never given up the claim to the whole of Kashmir. The best they have been able to do is to hold tight to that half of the V. It controls. Similarly, Israel, Jordan and the Palestinians have not shifted an inch from their claims of their dreams.

Israel holds the territory by military might. Yasser Arafat's struggle is the people's nationalist rejection of foreign rule. "You love your country," King Hussein may hold no cast-iron legal case, but he nourishes a gnawing grievance. In politics there are few pure powerful assets.

In a struggle, who in the outside world has not come up with remedies, each with his own plan? No need to go back as far as the Hopes, Simpsons or Lord Peel, or even to William Rogers and Jimmy Carter. They all knew best. A did Folke Bernadotte, UN Security Council resolutions 242 and 194, still invoked daily as magic incantations, were plans too. In more recent years we have had the EEC, a Venice in 1981, King Fahd and President Ronald Reagan in 1982. Well, mentioned or not, no plan from the outside has any strict

relevance. There can be no solution that does not spring from the free will and good sense of the parties themselves. Will they ever summon up enough imagination?

KING HUSSEIN refuses to negotiate because no possible negotiation, as he sees it, would serve his interest. He is for ever talking vaguely of a "just and durable" solution. Last year he put the blame on Yasser Arafat, telling him, in a moment of pique, to get lost. If Arafat, after endless talk and hesitation, felt able to do better without him, he was welcome to try. This year the king's scapegoat is the U.S. If President Reagan has not managed to get Israel to accept his plan, to freeze new settlements, etc., Hussein gives up. The Israel Government must have felt relieved; it, too, has not shown haste to rush into negotiations.

Children used to be teased by a conundrum: What happens when an irresistible force meets an immovable object? There is no way of moving Israel, Jordan or the PLO from their present positions, if they are not willing to move themselves. There is no chance of effectively squelching their claims, let alone their dreams. No one is going to budge an inch.

The Labour Party, prepared to budge a good few inches by "territorial compromise," will find this does not help. "Give an inch, he'll take an ell" (John Bartlett again). King Hussein would quite likely rest content with the West Bank, as it was before 1967, and Gaza. Arafat will never take his eye off everything from Galilee to the Negev. "Territorial compromise" means nibbling away at Israel itself. Good Likud men dream of outright annexation by Israel, but this is illogical, too, as a road to peace. It would be an act of self-destruction, as our government well knows. Israel could not live with it; it cannot afford the enmity, worse still the contempt, of the entire world.

Irresistible forces cannot bulldoze away the immovable object. It has

to find a way around it. There are only two truly basic interests, legitimately, in the Arabs' West Bank, Israel's Judea-Samaria. The Arabs must get the Israeli ruler off their backs. Israel must be assured of its own security. Neither of these interests will be given up. Israel at present is reasonably assured of its security, but only at the price of the Arabs' unyielding resentment and hatred — and of the unwelcome, demeaning tasks that so many Israeli soldiers, civilians in disguise, are called upon to fulfill. This is no highway to peace. The Arabs, for their part, are saddled with foreign rule for as long ahead as they or anyone can see. Not budging that inch is as sterile and counterproductive for them as it is for Israel, devoid of hope for a different future.

IT IS disingenuous of King Hussein to blame President Reagan for not making Israel budge. He has not been able to make Hussein budge either. No one is going to budge while what is being talked about is an ultimate solution. Israel will not make peace on terms acceptable to the king, less still on terms acceptable to Arafat — and neither of these two is going to make peace on terms acceptable to Israel. Why kid ourselves?

At the same time, Jordan and Israel have great need of one another. King Hussein knows that if Israel did not exist, Syria would swallow his country in a gulp. Israel's existence is vital to him, and the stronger Israel is the better. He knows Israel knows this, and Israel knows he knows this. For Israel, by the same token, it is preferable by far that King Hussein remain enthroned in Amman and not be dispossessed by any Hafez el-Assad conducting ex-Jordan's affairs from Damascus.

Control of the West Bank-Judea and Samaria will have somehow to be shared, according to the rights and needs of each party, without destroying anyone's dreams. The Arab population has a right to Arab

rule and administration. There is no reason why its schools, hospitals, courts, trade unions, police, communications, industry and the rest should be subject to Israeli control or even influence. The Palestinians have some of the necessary administrative structure themselves — association with Jordan will help them fill gaps.

Israel need see to nothing except its own security. There is no reason why the security forces it must maintain in Judea-Samaria should impinge on the Arabs' freedoms, on their structuring their lives in any way they choose. It would not be Israel's task to maintain local law and order. Its security posts need scarcely be visible; it would be enough for everyone, as far as Damascus and Baghdad, to know they were there. Military government of Judea-Samaria would have ended, with Israel's security ensured.

There has been talk of condominium, for and against, but we need no technical or high-falutin language. Condominium, in fact, exists: Israel exercises military and material dominion in the whole area. Arab nationalism holds sway with equal force over the people's minds. This is the condominium we have to get away from. It can only be done by dividing tasks, leaving Israel responsible for its own security alone, releasing the Arab population from foreign and therefore oppressive rule, free to go about their business as they see fit.

This will not be simple — nothing ever is. No one will need to give up his dreams (Hussein's and Arafat's are not the same). There may be no more here than a provisional arrangement, but it is a *provisoire qui dure*. It is perhaps not enough to this to base a peace treaty, of which there is no prospect anyway as long as no one will budge. And as things are, no one can budge. It could be, to quote the armistice agreement, a step in the "transition to permanent peace," a *modus vivendi* of good sense.

This at least would be something, even if formal peace eludes us all for generations. It may take till the Greek Calends, but better this than to wait for ever weighed down by a fruitless burden or a bitter heart. No one would lose anything essential nor have to betray his dreams. A way could open towards that final agreement on everything that goes by the name of peace.

The writer is a veteran diplomat and a former director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

DAN SEGRE, Reuben Hecht Professor of Zionism at the University of Haifa, a diplomat turned scholar, opened the international seminar on "State, Nation, and Religion" with a reference to "the mystery of Israel," quoting the late neo-Thomist Catholic philosopher Jacques Maritain.

Despite the stellar cast of scholars and intellectuals from Israel and abroad, at the end of the long day's lectures and discussions in the Senate Room on the 30th floor of Haifa University's Eshkol Tower on March 15, the mystery remained.

Segre's reference to Maritain was appropriate in a manner that, in all likelihood, he had not intended. For it was Maritain who had called attention to the messianic impulse in 20th century radical movements, both of the left and the right. The perversion of that impulse, in its identification with class as the saving force in history, was at the heart of Russian Marxism, Maritain maintained. An analogous identification with the state led to Fascism and with race to Nazism, in Maritain's analysis.

Did a similar perversion of the messianic impulse, materialized into the concept of territory, explain the present crisis in Zionism? This question, never explicitly asked during the Haifa seminar, somehow hung in the air.

Jerusalem's Prof. Paul Mendes-Flohr focused on the moral pursuit of political sovereignty in Jewish thought between the two world wars. World War I had ended in anguish and disillusionment, the burial of a "botched civilization," as Ezra Pound put it. For some intellectuals, this led to communism or, as in the case of Pound himself, to Fascism. However, it also led to a rededication to humanitarian and democratic values, a new humanism, which appealed to European Jewish intellectuals. This forced Zionist thinkers to confront the problem of the moral ambiguity of the nation-state. Would a restored Jewish sovereignty inevitably lead to all the woes of power politics and the loss of the historical mission of the Jewish people?

MENDES-FLOHR regarded the attempt to "project the future of the Jewish nation restored to Zion as somehow reaching beyond political sovereignty" as naive. He concluded with what he characterized as a "personal coda," combining, in the words of *Haikva*, "the hope of two thousand years" with Jewish

Spirit and the state

By ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

sovereignty "to be a free people in our land." The Zionist vision, for Mendes-Flohr, "obliges us to accept the responsibility 'to be a light unto the nations.'"

This, however, remained a personal coda, tacked on the end with nothing but a moving expression of faith to tie it to the analysis that formed the substance of his lecture. Inevitably, it could not bridge the gap between Ezra Pound, with whom he began, and *Haikva* with which he concluded. To Dan Segre's question, "How can we have a vegetarian state among carnivores?" Mendes-Flohr responded that when the knife was lifted, ethical nationalism could function.

Israel Prize-winner Prof. Saul Friedlander seemed to agree with Mendes-Flohr, calling for a pragmatic Zionism, tainted with the ethical nationalism of Martin Buber. Ethical norms must restrain the normal power-plays of politics, even if this is a striving for an unstable synthesis, he declared, echoing Mendes-Flohr's appeal to political wisdom informed by the Jewish heritage.

How this squares with the reality of Israel after Lebanon was presumably left to another seminar. The University of Minnesota's Harlan Cleveland, a former assistant secretary of state under John Kennedy, tartly observed that after a brief stay in Israel, he didn't know what light he was supposed to be seeing.

Prof. Nissan Oren, who has served as director of the Institute for International Relations of the Hebrew University, as well as academic director of the international relations programme of the Israel Defence College, touched on the consequences of expansion through defensive actions. He pointed out that the Boers in South Africa, starting with an ideal of self-labour, expanded their control over native Africans through a series of

armed encounters, all of which were motivated by the need to defend themselves. The effect on their original ideal was obvious, irrespective of their motives.

HOW DO the present revolutionary changes in knowledge and technology affect the Zionist perspective? This was the subject of the second half of the Haifa seminar. The general thrust of all the speakers suggested the diminished importance of the territorial factor.

Harlan Cleveland, who spoke on the international information revolution, said that, in the future, civilizations will be built more around communities of people, less on communities of places.

For Dr. Avraham Suhami, chairman of the board of directors of Elscint, this vision of a global ethnicity presented Israel with opportunity and danger.

It is the nature of the Jewish people, he observed, that it has been tied together by culture and values. If we concentrate on a piece of land, then Israel will have increasingly less in common with Jews abroad. Inevitably, there will be a flow of talented youth outwards.

There was a suggestion of loss of efficacy, if not of attractiveness, in the lecture of Uzi Eilam, director general of the Israel Atomic Energy Commission, entitled "The Israeli Military Industrial Complex: Technology or Faith?" The picture was of a loss of the pioneering spirit, a decline of faith, as export has become the primary directing force in Israel's defence industries, with profit an end in itself. There was even a danger that the military-industrial complex, a mammoth success story in itself, would cease to be attuned to the operational needs of the Israel Defence Forces.

Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz, a Talmudic scholar who can spend an evening teaching his computer Hebrew grammar, served as commentator on Eilam's lecture. He emphasized that Zionism, a movement for national renaissance, messianic in character, was also the strongest assimilatory movement in Jewish life. With the aim of normalizing Jewish life, we have lost part of the Jewish temperament — the questioning not only of others, but of ourselves. Here we can lead a Jewish life. In the American diaspora, there is enough leisure to think about what it is.

The writer is a political scientist.

The Canada-Israel scene

By WOLF BLITZER/Jerusalem Post Correspondent

The Jewish community does not consider it a right to petition their government; it is a duty for them. They are exceptionally well organized. They fully understand how to massage the system. The Canadian tradition of lobbying is still rather young.

Pollack also pointed to the fact that much of the approximately 350,000 Canadian Jewish community is "first generation" in Canada. As a whole, therefore, they are not yet as at home in the country as are the six million Jews of the U.S.

This last point was made obvious in a handbook for community activity which the CIC has just published.

"Some community members are reluctant to engage in advocacy on Canada-Israel relations on the grounds that their 'Canadianism' will be questioned," it said. "In fact, the results of our public opinion poll indicate that a majority of Canadians perceive that Jewish Canadians have a loyalty to both Israel and Canada. In their view, this does not affect the 'Canadianism' of Canadian Jews. Rather, it is a reflection of their commitment both to their country and to their heritage. In other words, Canadians expect us to be concerned about Israel's fate and to articulate this concern to them."

COMMUNITY LEADERS from around Canada — mostly from Ontario and Quebec, but also from the Maritime province of Nova Scotia

and Halifax on the west coast of British Columbia — gathered to hear lectures on the state of Canadian-Israeli relations, the overall situation in the Middle East, and other related topics. A special session was devoted to the unique aspects of the political process in Canada — or how best to influence politicians north of the U.S. border.

Just as is the case during the annual policy conferences of ALPAC in Washington — the next one is scheduled for April 8-10 — top Canadian parliamentarians came to meet with their constituents. Again as in Washington, this was more important than usual this year, since Canada is also on the eve of national elections. Prime Minister Pierre Elliott Trudeau has announced that he is not seeking yet another term in office, and there is no shortage of people anxious to succeed him. Many of them came to the CIC conference.

EXTERNAL AFFAIRS Minister Allan J. MacEachen delivered a lengthy address on Canadian policy toward Israel and the Middle East at a luncheon on March 21.

MacEachen visited the region last October, just around the time of the Beirut bombing of U.S. marine headquarters in Beirut. At the time, he made some statements in Damascus which upset Israel and its Jewish friends in Canada, including one indicating readiness to upgrade Canadian relations with the PLO. The earlier policy had been one of non-recognition, although lower-ranking diplomats were officially permitted to meet with PLO officials — unlike their American counterparts. Later, the minister backed off somewhat, admitting that, with the

disarray within the PLO, the time was "not quite propitious" for upgrading ties with it.

At the CIC luncheon, MacEachen did not mention the PLO by name — nor did he discuss other controversial subjects which are still very much on the Canadian-Israeli diplomatic agenda. Instead, he diplomatically focused on the strengths of the bilateral relationship. He addressed the broader Arab-Israeli peace process largely in generalities.

THERE CAN BE no denying that Canada is fundamentally a friend of Israel — on that Israeli officials in Ottawa and their supporters in the Jewish community agree. It has been a friend ever since 1948.

Certainly, Canada is by no means as important to Israel as is the U.S. But in its own way, Canada plays a significant role. The Jewish community alone is very organized, committed and relatively wealthy. The government of Canada may not provide financial assistance to Israel, but the Jews do, through the purchase of Israel bonds or through direct contributions to Israeli charities.

Trade between the two countries is rather modest, but as Israel's new ambassador to Canada, Eliahu Ben-Horin and MacEachen agreed, there is plenty of room for expansion in both directions. "There is always much more to be done, but we are on the right road and moving in the right direction," the minister said.

The three major political parties — all of which were represented at the conference by top leaders — spelled out their positions in detailed statements. There was not much real difference on the fundamental issues. All emphasized their enduring commitment to Israel's security and well-being. Still, each one has some differences with the Israeli government — whether on Jerusalem, the settlements, dealing with the PLO or the war in Lebanon.

ONE ISRAELI diplomat com-




mented that the consensus Canadian positions on these issues are generally not as favourable to Israel as those enunciated in Washington. But at the same time, they are certainly better than those of Western Europe. Canada's voting record at the UN is also generally favourable to Israel — roughly along the lines of Australia. That again means it's better than Western Europe but not as good as the U.S.

THERE IS NO shortage of problems facing the Canadian Jewish community. Most serious, of course, is the still lingering tension in Montreal between the English- and French-speaking communities. Most of the Jews are identified with the former, although significant numbers of French-speaking Sephardim from Morocco and elsewhere in North Africa have immigrated in recent years. As in Israel — although on a different scale — there are also some problems in Montreal between Ashkenazim and Sephardim.

But Jews on the whole have done well in Canada. They have moved up the socio-economic ladder very nicely. The Bronfman and Belzberg families are, of course, outstanding, but there is no shortage of very wealthy Jewish families. They are deeply involved in all aspects of life, including academics, the arts, politics, law and medicine. They have clout. For example, there are many Jews in parliament, the solicitor-general is Jewish, and so is the ambassador to the U.S.

Israeli diplomats at the embassy in Ottawa and at the consulates in Toronto and Montreal are very attuned to the limits of their mission, dwarfed, as it is, by Israel's task in the U.S. But Canada as a whole — and the very robust and devoted Jewish community in particular — is important to Israel in its own right. On this, there can be no debate. 21

The writer is the Washington correspondent of The Jerusalem Post.



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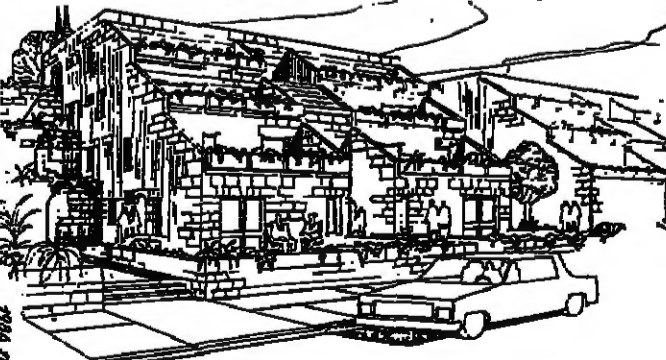
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B & B Advt.

DESPITE Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir's protests, many political observers are inclined to believe that he wants early elections almost as much as Labour leader Shimon Peres. And for the same reason.

Both Shamir and Peres would certainly be more comfortable facing each other than dealing with the challenges from within, which would be unavoidable were the Knesset vote set back to six months from now.

Shamir, premier for only six months, has not established himself so firmly in office as to relish the prospect of a head-to-head clash with David Levy, his rival when Herut chose a successor to Menachem Begin in September. Nor could he relish facing the bull-like charge of Ariel Sharon, the other declared candidate for the top spot on the Herut list. A May or June date for the general election would allow him to sidestep challenges by either Levy or Sharon, by pushing the same "don't rock the boat" line that Peres will employ in avoiding a leadership confrontation with Yitzhak Navon and Yitzhak Rabin.

SHAMIR has been doing his best to keep his relationship with Levy on an even keel, partly by lunching with his deputy after every Sunday cabinet session. The atmosphere at last week's luncheon could not have been too good, after Levy's ministerial colleagues gave him a sound roasting for predicting an imminent Lebanese pull-out.

The cabinet assault on the deputy premier was led by Communications Minister Mordechai Zivori. A week earlier, another minister — Liberal Avraham Sharir (Tourism) — did the dirty work on Sharon, taking Arik to task for publicly throwing his hat into the Likud leadership ring.

Both attacks may not have been solo performances. Shamir, ever careful not to take on either rival in public, has been said to prefer letting others do the dirty work for him, a technique perhaps acquired during his Mossad days. The same *modus operandi* has been adopted by Finance Minister Yigal Cohen-Orgad, who has not uttered a single word in public response to acerbic remarks by his predecessor, Yoram Aridor, about the speed with which the shekel broke the 150-per-dollar barrier this week.

With help from their friends



(Top row) Queen Elizabeth, Aura Herzog, Lova Eliav, Rafi Harlev, Gary Hart. (Below) Bezael Mizrahi, Aharon Abuhaitzel, Nessim Gaon, Aharon Uzan, Avraham Shapira.

THE PRIVATE MEMBER'S bill by Aharon Nahmias, Labour MK from Safad, setting a 90-day deadline for bringing the troops back from Lebanon, may get mislaid in the pre-election turmoil. The move to shelve Nahmias's plan is said to have the tacit support of two of his Labour colleagues, Yitzhak Rabin and Mordechai (Motta) Gur. The pair were reported not entirely unresponsive when Defence Minister Moshe Arens invited them in for private consultations on the redeployment of the IDF in South Lebanon.

Anyone surprised about the Rabin-Gur private readiness to talk turkey with a minister they savage in public would do well to recall that, back in 1982, both former chiefs-of-staff were perfectly willing to give advice to Sharon on the conduct of the Lebanese war.

GUEST LIST. Learning that a group of *Time* magazine luminaries, led by editor-in-chief Henry Grunwald, is due here next week, I

phoned the magazine's Jerusalem office to inquire. A secretary told me that no one was available to answer my question, "and anyway, we're not giving out details." Wonder if he'll be taking an interest in Arik Sharon's multi-million-dollar libel suit against the newsmagazine.

ON THE RIGHT, former C-O-S Rav Aluf (res.) Rafael (Rafal) Elhan has not yet said whether his Tzomet movement would field a list in the early election. But I have learned that one of Rafal's supporters, Jerusalemite David Averbach, recently flew to New York to raise money among Americans ready to fight to the last Israeli.

FLYING HIGH. Arik Sharon's popularity among local voters may have dimmed, but the minister is certainly treated as a Very Important Person by our national airline. A recent visitor from New York found both Dr. Eliahu Ben-Elissar, the chairman of the Knesset

PUBLIC FACES Mark Segal

Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee, and El Al general-manager Rafi Harlev among her neighbours in business class. The first-class section of the El Al plane, she learned, had been "hijacked" by Sharon and his entourage, which included Uri Dan, the *New York Post* correspondent in Israel.

EVIDENCE of the way El Al treats its first-class clients came my way on a recent return flight from New York. At Kennedy Airport, I watched a ground hostess usher both Bezael Mizrahi and Aharon Genish through the indignities of a security check. And on arrival at Ben-Gurion Airport, I noticed another El Al employee steering the two big businessmen past the sharp-eyed customs inspectors.

For those with short memories — Mizrahi won a lawsuit against *Ha'aretz* two years ago, after the

newspaper called him one of the kingpins of the Israeli underworld. Genish is not only one of our biggest contractors, he is also a Herut bigwig and the paymaster of the Tel Aviv Betar football club.

I GATHER that the impending state visit to England of President Chaim Herzog and his wife Aura is already causing frayed nerves at the Israeli Embassy in London where Ambassador Yehuda Avner and his fellow diplomats are being besieged by prominent members of the Anglo-Jewish community anxious to be among those invited to some of the social events and meetings. The visit, which starts next Tuesday, will have as its highlight a luncheon with Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip at Windsor Castle. There will also be meetings with Premier Margaret Thatcher and Labour leader. Neil Kinnock in addition to the rare honour of a reception at the Royal Courts of Justice in Middle Temple Hall (Herzog studied at Lincoln's Inn, where he was admitted to the Bar in 1939), and a speech to the Anglo-Israel Association chaired by Dorothy de Rothschild. The president will unveil a plaque at the old Park Lane home of Sir Moses Montefiore, marking the centenary of his death.

Ms. Herzog will have her own special schedule: addressing Jewish women's groups. During Purim she brought some festive joy to 2,000 sick children in hospitals. She canvassed the fashion industry and got remnants from Israel Pollack's Polgar and Leah Gottlieb's Gortex, and then got school principals involved in her project: 2,000 schoolchildren made cabbage patch clowns in time for Purim, attaching a personal get-well letter to each one.

KNESSET SPEAKER Menachem Savidor was forced to cancel a meeting of Knesset committee chairmen in the Tel Aviv Dan Hotel, after two chairmen Ora Namir (Education) and Avraham Katz-Oz (State Comptroller) insisted that the forum convene in his Knesset office as usual. Savidor claimed that other chairmen held they could only make it if the session was held in Tel Aviv.

NOT FOR NOTHING has Agudat Yisrael's genial coalition executive chairman Avraham (Manyu) Shapira been nicknamed "director-general of Israel Inc." Demonstrating his clout, this week he got Energy Minister Yitzhak Moda'i to grant lower electricity rates to synagogues (but only Orthodox ones) and yeshivot. He did so at the behest of the Rabbi of Klausenberg, who reportedly complained: "If I can get cut-rate power for my hassidim in New York, why not here?"

WHEN THE Governor of Florida, Robert Graham, called on Premier Shamir, I gather the question arose as to which presidential candidate Shamir preferred. He let himself off that hook by saying, "I'm neutral... all the candidates do support Israel." I wonder, has our premier ever heard of Jesse Jackson?

FORMER Sephardi Chief Rabbi Ovadia Yosef is planning to form a Sephardi Aguda list. I wonder whether that is connected with his Purim ruling against little boys dressing up as little girls and vice-versa. It's good that Barbra Streisand completed *Yentl* a year ago.

WEST GERMAN Ambassador Niels Hansen gave a farewell party for the embassy press attaché Chaim Karmali, who has returned to Bonn. His successor, Hans-Karl Peter, is arriving next week from the German capital. Meanwhile the ambassador spends his leisure time practising on the flute for his first public concert in Israel, due next week-end at the Givatayim-Tsavta club as part of its "Bach Plus" concert series.

WIZO USA held its first fundraising event last week at a gala recital given by violinist Yitzhak Perlman at New York's Lincoln Centre, followed by a black-tie supper. World WIZO's delegate at the UN, Evelyn Sommers, heads the new organization, which serves branches across America of newcomers who were formerly WIZO members in South Africa, France, Israel and South America. They have so far successfully lobbied Congress to cut the U.S.'s \$500,000 allocation to the virulently anti-

Israel Women's Decade conference told me.

MANY Caesarea residents like ex-general Amos Ben-Gal and contractor Harel Seldel flew to New York for the wedding of Shasha Cohen to Manhattan real estate magnate Stanley Stein in his \$5 million duplex. The beautiful bride, born to Moroccan immigrant family in Caesarea's neighbouring Or-Akiva, became general manager of aeronautics industry Leon Schidlovsky's Israeli interests and was reportedly adopted by him, before moving to Fifth Avenue via Caesarea.

THE ONLY second-generation tuxedo in our foreign service is to be found on our diplomatic press consul in New York, El Savir. He inherited it from his father, retired ambassador Leo Savir, who bought it in London 20 years ago.

THE Israel Ballet did a critical and box office-successful tour of appearances at New York's City Centre. During the premiere, Governor Mario Cuomo's declaration proclaiming it Yael Day was read out by the African JNF's chairman, Kitty Clissie Hart.

WHATEVER happened to the WZO rule of not hiring Yidim in its Diaspora offices? Its New York Youth and Hebraic Department has ex-Tel Avivian Noeli Ben-Gur editing its house journal. She reached the U.S. years ago as the government's coordinator of Israeli student activities in North America. Lately she has also been contributing to the yordim pay *Israel Shelanu* under the pseudonym "Semadar Yaacobi."

LOVE WOLF DEPT. Aryeh (Lova) Eliav will not be rejoining the Labour Party's list for the elections, whenever they may be. He learned that the former Labour secretary-general failed to get a solid commitment from Shimon Peres, and has decided to run on his own ticket this time.

Eliav, it will be recalled, left Labour in 1975 to become independent MK, later joining forces with Shulamit Aloni and Meir Freedman of the Citizens' Rights Movement to form the short-lived Ya'ad party. By 1977, Eliav had moved again, allying himself with Meir Palti, Uri Avnery and Shmuel Marcus in the leftist Sheli, which left the Knesset in 1979, as part of a Sheli rotation agreement.

According to usually reliable sources, Eliav will hold a press conference soon to announce his plans.

BRIEF ENCOUNTER. Senator Gary Hart of Colorado, who has been giving former vice-president Jimmy Carter a hard time for his money, recently began to stress his strong ties with Israel. But Hart only visits Israel was, to say the least, very brief.

Together with Democratic Senate colleagues John Glenn of Ohio and Abraham Ribicoff of Connecticut, Hart was here in 1976. The senators were not allowed to visit the Dimona nuclear sector, and Hart left the country 12 hours after his arrival.

PARTY LINES. Tami Ak Aharon Abuhaitzel this week claimed knowledge of the recent Israeli visit of his party's patron, Nessim Gaon of Geneva. If that's true it can only be attributed to a lack of communication between Ami's top echelon. Friends inform us that weeks ago, they saw Gaon dining with Tami's Labour and Social Affairs Minister Aharon Uzan.

84 דינר תל

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WHEN IN JERUSALEM — A VISIT TO THE TOWER OF DAVID IS REALLY A MUST

DAVID'S TOWER — REDISCOVERED

A NEW ARMY TAKES SHAPE

The Post's Joshua Brilliant reports on the Southern Lebanese Army, the Israeli-trained regional force that may be an important factor in keeping the peace along Israel's northern border.



THE UNIFORM looked natural on the lean Lebanese soldier facing me in the bare, grey-walled mess hall near Nabatiyeh. We were tearing pita and dunking it in humus. He told me he was now serving in his third fighting force.

He had been a member of a militia of the Shi'ite Amal organization and of the Syrian backed E-Saeka terrorist organization. Now he is the commander of a company of Shi'ites in the South Lebanese Army (SLA).

"Can you trust him?" I asked a source involved in building the new force.

"They tell us he's O.K.," the source replied, but there seemed to be a note of doubt in his voice.

The Shi'ite commander was born in a village just south of the Lebanese border, a site today occupied by Margalit. Neither a full-fledged Palestinian nor a Lebanese, he has been supporting whoever was in power, the source continued.

Did his appointment to the sensitive post indicate it was impossible to get someone more trustworthy?

Whether this company commander and other Shi'ite, Sunni, Druse and Christian men could and would stand up to terrorists may be a decisive factor in Israel's decision on withdrawing from Lebanon.

The alternatives are bleak. The Lebanese Army is weak and cannot be trusted to keep the terrorists out of South Lebanon. Israelis also have doubts about UNIFIL's effectiveness.

An Israeli-trained regional force would be considered of Jerusalem's needs. Since the central government in Beirut does not command national respect, people in the south would tend to put an even greater emphasis on local considerations and would be doubly amenable to Israeli pressure to keep terrorists out. Hopefully they would realize that the best way to prevent their

villages and fields from again becoming a battleground would be to keep the terrorists out.

The new army is an outgrowth of the militia of the late Major Sa'ad Haddad. The Israeli authorities hope to change its image from that of a Christian force into one of a mixed unit, heterogeneous in religious composition and thus acceptable to all of the South Lebanese populace.

South of the Zaharani River, there are only a few Christian enclaves, while the overwhelming majority are Shia Muslims.

MOVES TO establish the new army began last year, and significant strides have already been made. By last week, the force numbered close to 1,700 and by the end of March, another 300 Lebanese are expected to join.

It is organized as a brigade. (The abrogated May 17 agreement provided for the deployment of a Territorial Brigade in the area.) In general, its structure is identical to that of an Israel Defence Forces brigade, which would make it easier for Israel to "cooperate" with it, especially if the Lebanese Government refuses to recognize the unit.

Israeli officers have been assigned to it, to work with the local commanders. Gradually the force seems to be developing from a militia — or a "gang," as some called it — into a disciplined military unit.

The force has gradually broadened its activities and now patrols the strip along the Israeli border and a wedge reaching Jezzine in the central sector. It also helps out in Sidon.

It is said to be quite effective. The men recently got hold of considerable amounts of arms destined for terrorist attacks. "As a Lebanese I can tell a Palestinian from a Shia or others. I can tell peo-

ple by their complexions. I know their mentality," a deputy company commander in the Jezzine battalion explained.

THE FORCE proved its worth about a fortnight ago after an Israeli jeep was ambushed, and two reservists were killed. The attackers' tracks led to the Arab village Selim between Nabatiyeh and Jezzine.

The SLA clamped a curfew on the village.

The 40 hour curfew and its results were regarded as a feather in the force's cap. But there are still problems casting a shadow on the army's future.

The command problem is one. The death of Major Haddad, after a prolonged battle with cancer, left a vacuum at the top. Sooner or later someone must be found to assume his mantle.

But with whom would the new commander share the burden of running the army? Haddad's number two man is only a second lieutenant. There are no other Lebanese officers in the brigade.

Israel is trying to raise the command's level of expertise. But it takes years to groom a good company commander, let alone a battalion commander, who in a regular army carries the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Perhaps more crucial is the force's ability to keep its religious groups in harmony. The Christians now comprise 63 per cent of the SLA, the Shia, 17; the Druse, 13; and the Sunnis, only 7 per cent. Some units include men from one religious group only, but others are mixed.

Can the units cooperate despite bitter fighting among their co-religionists in the north?

The commanders of a mixed SLA company said they could. "We have a common interest and a common goal," the deputy company com-

mander said. In another room, an operations officer insisted that relations between men were good. "In these barracks, you'll find people from everywhere," he said.

Nevertheless, 19 members of a former Phalangist unit who joined the SLA protested when they were assigned to mixed platoons. They took it "pretty badly," a well-placed source said.

Eventually, with "a lot of persuasion," they were calming down and taking the development "quite well." Whether ingrained enmities will surface under stress situations remains to be seen.

Much will depend, of course, on the degree of commitment to the Army's goals — and that of course is an unknown.

SOME MEN were attracted to the SLA by money. (Israel pays them monthly 1,000 to 1,400 Lebanese pounds, the equivalent of IS27,000 to IS38,000 per soldier. The Lebanese local authorities add 500 to 700 Lebanese pounds, about IS13,500 to IS19,000.)

The Christians are probably the most committed of all. They fear the future in view of the increased power of the Muslims and Druse and the prospect of Syrian intervention. They fear for their physical safety. Thus hundreds of Christians, including students, have asked to join the force, while Israel wants to change the army's Christian profile.

There has also been a lively interest in the SLA among the Druse in the Hasbaya-Rashaya area, but close examination shows this has little to do with the SLA's aims. Druse volunteered hoping they would thus avoid being drafted into the regular Lebanese Army.

No doubt it is more pleasant to serve in Southern Lebanon than in the north. It is closer to home and less likely that one would be called on to fight Druse brethren. But can

a fighting force rely on people who regard service in it as a sanctuary from fighting elsewhere?

RECRUITERS face the biggest obstacle in Shia towns and villages. Shia participation is essential if the SLA is to acquire a new image.

The Shia in Southern Lebanon suffered from the Palestinian fighters, and their Amal militia fought back. At times the Palestinians did not travel at night for fear of Shia ambushes.

But the current mood among the Shia is anti-Israel: many associate Israel with their Phalangist foes.

The influence of Khomeini is still marginal in the south. Problems are also encountered among secular groups since the supporters of Amal view the SLA as a potential rival in the area.

But the Shi'ite community is divided, and some support for the SLA may be found among moderates or villages controlled by feudalistic families. Nevertheless the community's low rate of enrolment so far speaks for itself. So does the incident at Haruf, west of Nabatiyeh three weeks ago.

After sundown villagers — according to some estimates there were 500 people — attacked an SLA roadblock manned by a Shia platoon. The attackers, armed with iron rods and stones, charged, shouting that the soldiers were "working with the Jews."

The SLA troops withdrew, opened fire and wounded five villagers.

IT REMAINS to be seen how long it will take before the SLA is considered ready to replace the IDF. The force's commanders and Lebanese notables talk about months, a year or even more than that. Meanwhile the army is being tested, charged with an increasing

scope of activities and kept under a watchful eye. Some circles in Israel argue that the SLA should never be left to stand alone if it is to survive.

During Haddad's time there were several instances before the war when Haddad's militia would have collapsed had Israeli tanks not arrived on the scene at the crucial moment.

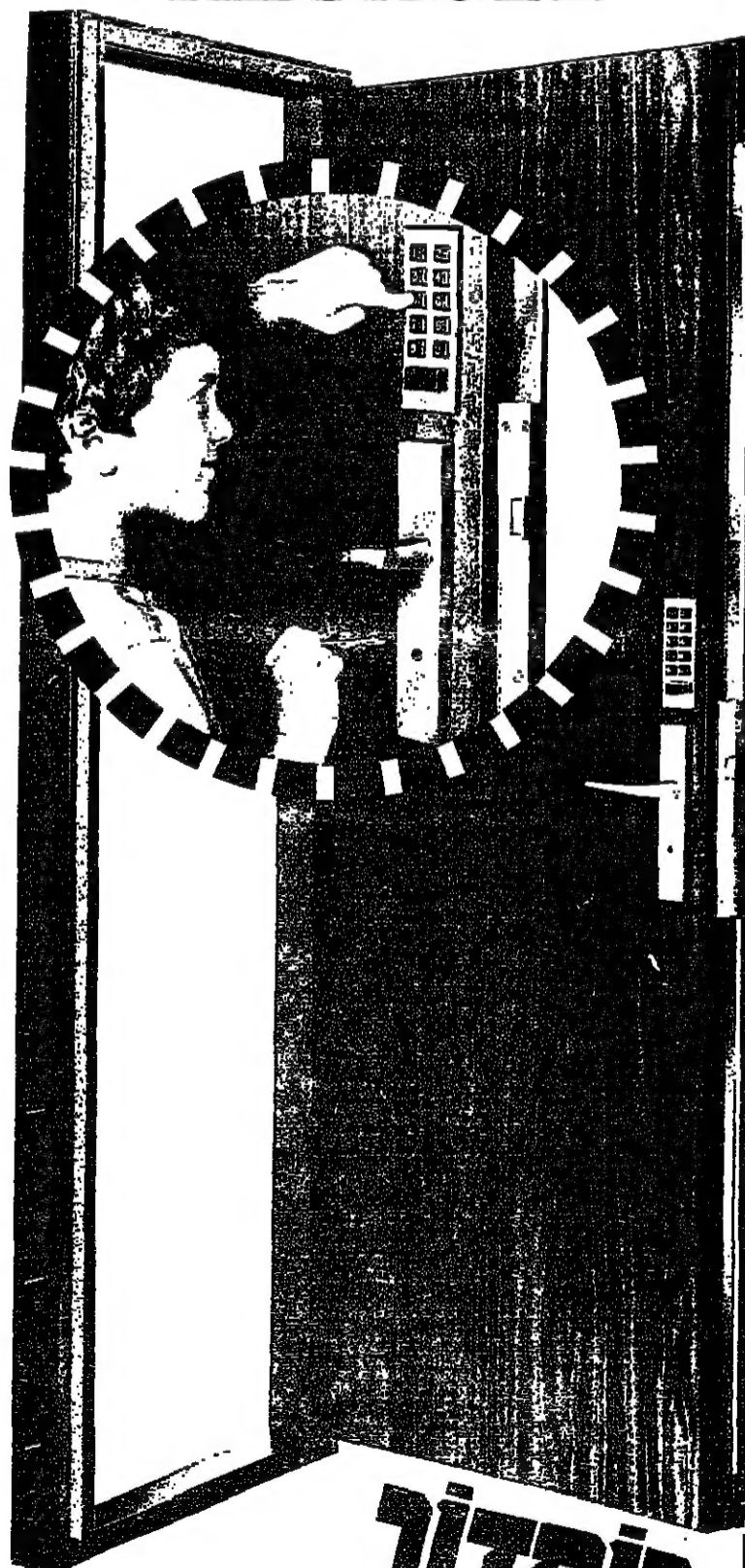
The same backing may be required for the SLA. Its composition is so complex that perhaps it will never be used as a unified fighting force.

Instead one may have to think of

the SLA's command as a roof organization, sending Shia units to Moslem areas and Christian units elsewhere.

The IDF itself may still have a role to play in the foreseeable future. Perhaps its patrols across the Awali line are an example in this respect. The Druse have been opposing terrorist encroachments in the hills, the Phalangists hold the coastal plain north of Sidon and the IDF tanks, which occasionally roll down the roads north of the Awali, remind everybody that the big stick is not too far away.

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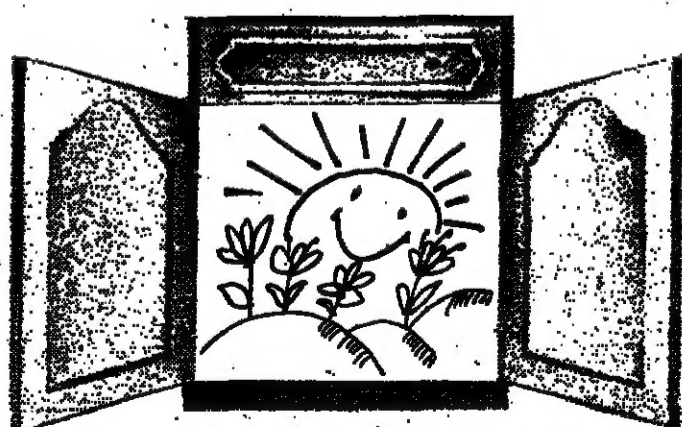
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34-HOUR Major appliance service, Benay Cohen + Stegman Tel. 02-333-171 ext. 4183.

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ENGLISH SECRETARY knowledge of export an asset, for interesting full time work in Beersheba area, Manpower 31 Rambam, Beersheba Tel. 057-79523.

SECRETARY, Import Export Department, Jerusalem, Pessah, 5 day week, perfect English and typing, mature, experienced preferred, 02-852624.

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WANTED SLEEP-IN NURSEMAID for infant, excellent opportunity for right person, in Ramat Hasharon, Tel. 03-494332.

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(English as mother tongue)
Please apply in handwriting, attaching curriculum vitae, to P.O.B. 544, Haifa.

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to head an Ashkelon dental clinic.
As part of a rehabilitation project for an Ashkelon neighbourhood, a dental clinic is being commissioned. The clinic comprises three dental chairs, and a clinic for preventive dental care instruction.
There are two permanent volunteer staff dentists from England (English speaking).
The clinic's work is mainly with school children: emergency treatment for the needy is provided.
The clinic is open during morning and evening sessions every day. There is a vacancy for a dentist to run the clinic. (Preference for applicants from English speaking countries).
Please apply to the Ashkelon Neighbourhood Rehabilitation Institutions Co., P.O.B. 234, Ashkelon, Tel. 051-24102, 25164, 25165.

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SENIOR PILOT PLANT TECHNICIAN
DESCRIPTION:
Construction, maintenance, operation, modification of multi-level one-half ton-per-day oil shale and coal pilot plants, including all infrastructure
DUTIES INCLUDE:
Mechanical construction: piping; assembly and connection of large modules (reactor, condenser, separator drum, etc.); coordination with engineers, electricians, electronics technician; specification and purchase of equipment; securing bids.
QUALIFICATIONS:
Qualified technician with a number of years suitable experience (not necessarily with pilot plants), and with references
GRADE:
According to qualifications
Appointee will be employed initially on a special contract for a one-year trial period. Please forward applications, names of references, and resumes by April 1st, 1984, to Personnel Department, The Hebrew University 91905 Jerusalem, marking envelope "Candidate for Position/SA".

WORLD ZIONIST ORGANIZATION
Diaspora Education and Culture Department
Vacancy
2 TEACHERS (Couple)
for 1984/85 School Year
Qualifications required:
1. Religious
2. Qualified to teach Judaic subjects - at least 3 years' current Israeli primary teaching experience
3. Fluent spoken Scandinavian language, or English
4. The school requires two teachers who are a married couple.
Candidates meeting all the requirements are asked to apply as a matter of urgency to the Diaspora Education and Culture Dept., Teacher Placement Section, P.O.B. 92, Jerusalem.

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Mature man, univ. grad., computer technician with background in medical technology.
wishes to represent medical instrumentation and/or computer co. in Southern California.
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THE JERUSALEM POST

MA'ARIV HA'ARETZ

HALUACH HEHADASH - Classified Advertisements in cooperation with MA'ARIV-HA'ARETZ - HA'IR-KOL HA'IR.

All classified advertisements for Friday submitted to Haluach Hehadash head office by 5 p.m. Thursday preceding publication appear in this section.

Loans

Clearance of clients' checks for businesses on good terms. 03-241273.

Loans for permanent employees, monthly installments, convenient conditions. 03-944496.

Israel's largest center for financing loans, makes novel suggestions for factories, import-export companies. 03-614882, 03-625744.

Halls

For rent, Netanya, 400sq.m. hall, first floor, on pillars, phone, power, suitable for electronics. 03-230796, 03-231329.

Industrial Premises

Segula, Petah Tikva, for sale, industrial structure on 3/4 dunams. 03-782386, 03-706835.

For monthly rent, 115sq.m. + 20 power, conveniences, parking. 03-262955.

Areas of all sizes for sale and rent, for commerce, offices and light industry, in Panamera Center, Sderot Ben Zvi, near Holon Junction, available 6.84, 418,400, 429,980.

For rent, 100sq.m. structure, power, phone. 03-823653, 03-828333.

Givat Harel, for rent, detached structure, 3 stories, 285 each room, power, phone, Coral, 289,943, 292,616.

For rent, 100sq.m. yard, power, phone, Kiryat Matson, Petah Tikva. 03-230847.

Offices

Rehov Peretz, Kikar Hamehavot, for rent, 6 room office, 1-2 phone, 299,980.

Cla building, Tel Aviv, one room office for rent. 03-292813, 03-295618.

For sale, 2 room office + phone, Givat Ben Gurion, 499,910, 238,189.

Sale of offices has begun in luxurious building, 25 Dizengoff Tel Aviv, Elav. 03-440313.

Rehov Nahmani, for rent, 3-4 rooms with phone for office. Cal, 24,985.

Ramat Gan, for sale, new project, bargain price, high standard. Coral, 252,16, 289,943.

For rent, 2 room, Nahmani, 39, ground floor, 2 air conditioners, license, 84,122.

Savon Carpentry, production and marketing of office furniture, permanent display, 20 Meislat Wolfson, Tel Aviv. 03-523352.

3 rooms, 95sq.m. wall-to-wall carpeting, 4 phone lines in Beit Hataiva, immediate entry. 03-652201, 03-230997.

Industrial rental, complete store (part, possible), 470sq.m. phone, Alenby-Blaik, Piner, 28,035.

In office building, Alenby, 2 rooms, monthly rental, 26,303.

24 rooms, monthly rental, Alenby, near Kikar Magen David, 03-281993.

Plots

Yavneh, Shehanut 1000, 417sq.m. 03-228872, not Shabbat.

Givat Tikva, in dunam for cottage construction, 03-705271, for 1400.

Raanana, 10 dunams, bordering built-up area, \$7500 per dunam only. 03-558286, not Shabbat.

Tel Aviv center, for sale, plot for residential construction. Elav, 03-440313.

Even Yehuda, plot for sale Tel. 03-84381, 864,242.

Sweden house, two-level, 530,000 for self assembly, with or without plot. 03-340933, evenings, 03-179818.

Zichron Yaakov, plot for construction, 318,500, 083-99128, 083-99055, 083-99051.

Construction plots in Jerusalem and throughout country urgently needed. Kedai, 222,271, 242,080.

For sale in Montefiore neighborhood, 380 sq.m. plot + house, 200, 799,274.

Binymina, excellent plot + view, for building villa or cottage 03-459389.

Plot for sale, two-family building frames, 750, in Kiryat Koreh, Rishon LeZion. 03-51542.

For farm owners, for sale, stock, tractor-operated equipment. 03-828789, 03-831238, 067-51036.

Farm in Ein Ayala, 24 dunams, 063-38666, home, 240,000, 063-48355.

Active farm in Moshav Ben Yehoshua, large house and structures. 03-828789, 03-831238, 067-51036.

Kfar Monash, farm, orchards, plantations, large house and structures. 03-828789, 03-831238, 067-51036.

Moshav Menucha, farm, orchard, house, 058-81713, not Shabbat.

Family seeks farm on moshav for monthly rent, one year, between Jerusalem and Netanya, from September. 03-440313.

For rent in Moshava Migdal, agricultural land and orchards, UTB tractor, 1982, and drip irrigation equipment for orchards. 067-51783.

Farm in Moshav Ramat Yotam for sale. Tel. 03-440313.

Farm in center of country, luxurious cottage + orchard, 055-92144, weekdays. For sale, 3 dunams, Shariel caron hot houses + equipment. 04-942867.

Shovel (990), model 1973, after overhaul, excellent condition. 35,000, 268,588.

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Many couples from all over the country, have married or are marrying through Keshet pamphlets, to receive them call now. 04-42105, also Saturday.

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Group for married couples, 35-40, is being formed for group activities on weekends, not sexual. P.O.B. 1369, Ramat Hasharon.

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(Continued from Page One)

in May or June, in the hope that by then the prospects of an election victory would be brighter.

On Wednesday, when the coalition was limbering up for the crucial session, cabinet secretary Dan Meridor went to see former premier Menachem Begin, who is in seclusion at his home in the Yefe Nof quarter. Begin told him that he would be most reluctant to attend the session unless it was absolutely necessary.

Yesterday, when Ben-Porat's announcement that he would support early elections spelled defeat for the coalition and led to the secret vote proposal, ministers again thought of contacting Begin. But they decided that it would be inelegant to ask him to come to vote when there was anyway no certainty that his vote would swing the balance in the coalition's favour.

Meanwhile, Savidor and his deputy speakers called in Attorney-General Yitzhak Zamir, who ruled that the House could hold a secret vote only if the plenum specifically decided that this must be the voting procedure.

Now that the bills have gone to the Constitution, Legislation and Law Committee to be prepared for a regular first reading, the coalition — which controls that committee — will be in no rush to complete its work. Its aim will be to force as late a date as possible and perhaps even to decide on that date only in May, when the House comes back from its Pesach recess.

The House still has one week to sit before rising for the recess. If Law Committee chairman Eli Kulak takes his time next week, and if the winter session is not extended as the Alignment has demanded, he will only get down to business in six weeks. He would be protected against charges of prevarication by the House Rules, which do not permit his body to meet during recess.

In the coming days, additional elements may be added to the already-complicated parliamentary situation, since Tami — a coalition faction — has clearly infringed coalition discipline.

The possibility cannot be ruled out that Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir will expel Tami Minister Aharon Uzan from the cabinet, whereupon Tami would table a vote of no-confidence.

This would not necessarily bring down the government, however, since *The Post* has already been assured by independent Mordechai Ben-Porat and by Liberal Yitzhak Berman that they cannot be counted upon to vote no-confidence in the government.

However, if the House does pass a vote of no-confidence, this would automatically entail the government's resignation. Shamir would

EARLY ELECTIONS

have to go to President Chaim Herzog, who would have to cast about for a new prime minister and to set in motion the complicated process of forming a new coalition cabinet.

Yesterday's traumatic Knesset session may well cast a shadow on the coming parliamentary week, when the government must get the 1984-85 state budget passed on its second and third readings. This comes when Tami is still pressing for special benefits for low-income families and when Agudat Yisrael is demanding another ISL.5b. for yeshivot.

The factions kept up intense activity throughout the day, with regard to both the timing of the elections and the votes of Independent MK Mordechai Ben-Porat and Liberal dove Dror Zeigerman, who was flying home from his mission in Argentina.

Ben-Porat upset the coalition's calculations by announcing he would plump for early elections after consultations with Shamir and Peres, which lasted for two days.

The coalition then realized that it did not matter very much whether Dror Zeigerman got back to vote with the coalition or not, since in any case the opposition's 56 votes had swelled to 61, thanks to Tami's three votes and one each from Liberal maverick Yitzhak Berman and Ben-Porat.

It was at this point that the coalition raised the idea of holding a secret vote on the dissolution bills, in the hope that a handful of opposition MKs, who wanted a way to cling to their seats at all costs, would use the cloak of secrecy to vote with the coalition.

The coalition proposal in the House Committee for a secret vote (an extremely rare procedure requiring the forced interpretation of an umbrella clause in the House Rules) split the National Religious Party faction down the middle.

Yehuda Ben-Meir, the NRP representative in the House Committee and chairman of the NRP Knesset faction, resigned both jobs in protest against the secret-vote proposal, even though it came from his own party and coalition colleagues.

This was because Ben-Meir wishes elections as early as possible, for internal party reasons, while the NRP doyen, Interior and Religious Affairs Minister Yosef Burg, wishes elections as late as possible for the opposite internal NRP considerations. Burg's view, which coincides with the Likud wish for elections next winter, prevailed over that of Ben-Meir and his young guard colleagues, Education and Culture Minister Ze'ev Elkin and So-Ben-Meir was promptly replaced by his NRP colleague, Eliezer Avtobi, who

toes the Burg line.

Ben-Meir's arguments for the record against the secret vote, like those of the opposition, were that it would be an unacceptable precedent and an anti-democratic manifestation enabling the people's elect to hide their true colours.

When the Likud ministers pondered whether or not to get the House Committee to arrange the procedure for a secret vote (thanks to the coalition majority in the committee), Justice Minister Moshe Nissim was the only minister who spoke against it, warning his colleagues that the move would be seen as "unclean."

Nissim's solo effort was to no avail, and the committee endorsed the procedure in two successive sessions.

While all this was going on, MKs Geyla Cohen, Uzi Baram and Dror Zeigerman returned from Buenos Aires.

Zeigerman had been met at Ben-Gurion Airport by his close colleague, Dan Tichon. Earlier, Tichon had tried in vain, together with Savidor, to persuade Liberal maverick Yitzhak Berman to change his mind and to vote against the election legislation.

Berman, Savidor, Tichon and Zeigerman had collaborated at times during the past months in a vain effort to get Likud recognition as a separate wing in the faction. By the time Zeigerman got to Jerusalem after an on-the-highway briefing from Tichon, he was ready to tell reporters that he would vote with the coalition.

Zeigerman said that since his long-standing objective was early elections and he had got a solemn promise from the Likud that it would schedule elections before the end of 1984, he was quite prepared to vote down the opposition's election proposals now and to support the promised coalition election proposals later.

He told *The Post*: "I see no reason why Tami and the Alignment should dictate to the Likud. I am a man of conscience and my conscience is at rest now that I know there'll be elections before the year is out."

Zeigerman said that nobody had spoken to him about his and his three Liberal colleagues request for a separate wing in the Likud. When *The Post* asked Zeigerman whether he believed that the prospects of getting recognition as a separate wing had nonetheless improved as a result of him toeing the line, he replied, "I don't see why."

He then launched into a scathing attack on Peres, whom he accused of soliciting him several times to cross the floor to the Alignment benches.

Baram, who was with Zeigerman in Argentina, said that Zeigerman was totally confused and contradictory about his voting intentions till the moment the plane landed at Ben-Gurion.

Baram said that till Wednesday morning Zeigerman had no idea what was going on in the Knesset with the dissolution proposals. However, after Ezer Weizman announced he was not seeking an alliance with any Knesset members (like Berman and Zeigerman), Tichon had hurried to phone Buenos Aires to tell Zeigerman where he stood. So Zeigerman decided to return on Tichon's advice, Baram told *The Post*.

"Dror saw that the whole show rested on his vote," Baram said. "So I assume he decided it was crucial for his future to be in Jerusalem and not in Buenos Aires. But he kept on changing his mind during our 23-hour plane flight and I had no idea what he would do."

Baram said that he, Cohen and Zeigerman were flabbergasted at Zurich airport, when a hostess mounted the Swiss jet and asked: "Who is Mister Zeigerman? There's an urgent call from Jerusalem awaiting him on an open telephone in the VIP lounge."

It was thanks to the Likud's breathless hunt for Zeigerman in mid-journey, Baram said, that the three of them were treated like royalty at Kloten. "But I'm wondering how much that open phone for Dror cost, and who was paying for it, and how long the caller was waiting for him."

Baram told *The Post* that the decision to call the delegation back from Argentina was "a disgrace."

He said that "it was the most important parliamentary mission abroad that I ever took part in, and although we achieved a great deal during the first part of our stay, there was much we had to abandon and our hosts were unable to fathom the reasons for our hasty departure."

He said the delegation left so fast it had no time to apologize to all those with whom appointments had been fixed and with whom appointments would be very hard to rearrange in the future.

Baram said he was promised that the Argentine parliament would pass a special law banning anti-Semitism and racism. He was promised that Israelis visiting Argentina would no longer need entry visas and that the problem of dual citizenship for Argentine nationals in Israel would be studied in a favourable light, as a result of their efforts.

He said that while the delegation had managed to make much progress on Jewish issues, the field of inter-parliamentary cooperation had hardly been touched.

In a few minutes to discuss "the continuation of the agenda." What the committee discussed was a Likud motion to have the vote in the plenum in secret ballot.

The session resumed at 6:35 p.m. and Ehud Olmert (Likud-La'am) spoke against Peres's bill, saying that it was healthy for a democracy to hold elections once in four years and not every time that circumstances were favourable for one party or another.

It was legitimate for a party to propose early elections for its political convenience, but at least it should spare the country the high-sounding talk giving "the national interest" as its motive.

Moshe Katsav (Likud-Herut) then spoke against Abuhaitzira's bill, and shortly after he began he was interrupted by Shoshana Arbeli-Almosino (Alignment-Labour) on a point of order permitted by Deputy Speaker Moshe Shahal, who was then in the chair.

Apparently by pre-arrangement, Arbeli protested against the decision about to be taken by the House Committee to recommend a secret ballot and, although the committee's decision had not yet been submitted to the plenum, Shahal ruled that a secret ballot would be contrary to the Knesset Rules.

ticket and that polls he had commissioned had convinced him that the list can expect to win two Knesset seats in the coming elections. He maintained that he has nothing to fear from elections.

Likud suspicions of a payoff were intensified in the afternoon, when Peres finally made his speech and at no point spoke specifically and explicitly of a national unity government. He only hinted at it when he spoke of his party's desire for a government with a large majority and wide backing, which would reflect the unity of Israel and would not be dependent on the small parties. This was seen as less than the open commitment to establish a national unity government that Ben-Porat said he was seeking.

Zeigerman, who showed up in the evening, charged that Labour "had on more than one occasion offered me deals. They asked me to defect and switch over to their party in return for a host of promises and inducements."

SLOGAN. — The slogan, "This Year We're Tourists in Israel," will be stamped on the envelopes of all mail sent from government offices as part of the effort to encourage tourism.

ANGOLA. — Anti-government Angolan guerrillas said yesterday they killed 256 government soldiers, 15 Cubans and three Soviet nationals.

Offscreen at the tomb

By HELGA DUDMAN/Jerusalem Post Reporter

ONE WOULD HAVE thought they were shooting a pornographic film for television. Or the opening of a café on a Friday night. Or at the very least, a documentary on foreign gods.

But no. The subject of a filming session on Israel ha-Nes TV one recent evening was Rabbi Meir Ba'al ha-Nes, the revered "Miracle Maker," Rabbi Akiva's most famous student, and the foremost scholar of the period following the Bar Kochba Revolt. The filming was done at the traditional site of his tomb just south of Tiberias, near the Hot Springs, and a television crew had come from Jerusalem to put together the elements of a half-hour show for a new series. The idea is to present a Saturday night programme that will acquaint the general public with religious traditions and holy sites throughout the country; and the hillside grave of Rabbi Meir, which has attracted pilgrims for centuries, was selected for the pilot experiment.

Would it be reasonable to expect such an event — designed to bring the story of a saintly rabbi to a wider audience, filmed against a big backdrop reading *Shema Yisroel* and before an exceptionally well-behaved invited audience of Tiberians — to become the target of planned harassment by ultra-Orthodox activists?

It would not be reasonable; and so that is exactly what happened. The "activists" had arrived the day before, when certain segments of the show had been filmed, and "began to disturb us," as one TV crew-member told me. The evening of the main filming, there was a delay of over an hour, as one group of ultra-Orthodox began a loud singing-session that made it impossible to do any recording. Only the low-keyed intervention of, among others, kippa-wearing Tiberias Mayor Yigal Bibi, who is spending an increasing amount of his time facing such situations, made it possible for the show to go on.

WHAT IN THIS WORLD could have aroused all the ultra-Orthodox wrath? Surely not a desperate attempt to prevent some of Rabbi Meir's attributed sayings from reaching a wide audience of non-believing ears — such as, for instance, that a gentile who devotes himself to studying Torah is a man of value, and that even more so, a man who studies the Torah "takes precedence over an ignorant priest." Or the fact that, while holding extreme views in some spheres, Rabbi Meir was liberal in his attitude toward the non-Jewish world and foreign culture, and advised moderation vis-a-vis the Roman establishment.

None of this, by the way, found its way into the short account of Rabbi Meir spoken by the programme's compère when the Orthodox demonstrators finally trooped down the stairs from the prayer area near the tomb, and recording was allowed to start.

During the delay, I asked some of the patient members of the audience why they thought the ultra-Orthodox were objecting to this event. The answers I received — nearly all from members of old Tiberias families, which is to say, reared in a strictly Orthodox environment, and nearly all wearing kippot — had to do with the presence of women, and specifically, with the fact that the two local choirs which sang for the programme were mixed. But more than that. According to one explanation, "It is forbidden, among the really Orthodox, that a woman should sing at all in the presence of men, because that will draw attention to her, and of course, that is how the trouble starts."

I HAVE GONE into all this at some length because this was yet another

example of the situation toward which we are moving. In this case, though, the confrontation was not between secular and religious, but between religious-traditional (with, to be sure, a sprinkling of seculars) and the really far-out. And also because it all took place facing the TV cameras, none of it was filmed. When audiences see it in their homes, it will come across as an untroubled mix of legend, interviews, songs, and that controversial singing.

The choir, by the way, was, in the habit of choirs, hardly dressed for an orgy. The women wore long black skirts and long-sleeved, embroidered blouses. The men choristers were in black trousers and, if I remember correctly, white shirts. (I believe that all the men's heads were covered, although I did not make an individual check; my investigative reporting does not extend to such research.) The written invitations had asked women to dress modestly, and men to wear a head-covering. Because it was a winter evening, the first requirement was uniformly observed. A few men were bare-headed.

The setting chosen for the programme was the open space in front of the picturesque old buildings of the Sephardi section of Rabbi Meir's tomb. The Ashkenazi complex is above this, further up the hill. Motorists driving along the lakeside may glance up at the two cupolas, equal but separate, constructed over more than a century ago by contributions from Sephardi and Ashkenazi communities abroad.

THE DISTURBERS of the peace were also even-handedly organized into Sephardi and Ashkenazi contingents. Prominent among the former was Tiberias-born Rabbi Maklef Eden, who gained notoriety recently for directing attacks on local Christian establishments. His family is known for its piety and religious observance, and he himself was well within the city's religious norms "until he went off to study in Bnei Brak."

The Ashkenazi *haredim* — unlike the Sephardim, all in black garb, but like them, mostly quite young — stayed in little clusters, and argued violently with those who were trying to preserve peace and brotherhood. Nobody knew quite where they were from: "Jerusalem... Bnei Brak..." They appeared to be a task force along the lines of those organized by the Bnei Brak rabbi who has brought the Bank Leumi and the Africa-Israel Investment Company to its corporate knees by delaying the nearby hotel project. The Ashkenazi visitors could not, of course, pray in Sephardi territory, but went up the hill to pray under their own cupola.

Although this religious fringe is intent on crippling the development of tourism here, no bones are made — if I may be permitted the expression — of the fact that the pious fathers of Tiberias long viewed Rabbi Meir's tomb as a money-making pilgrim attraction. The festivities at the site were timed to occur just before the annual pilgrimage to the tomb of Rabbi Shimon Bar Yohai at Meron, near Safad, "and since people had to go through Tiberias to get to Safad, the idea was to catch them at Tiberias first." Together with the Hot Springs, it made a very competitive package against Safad.

THE BEGINNINGS of tourism to the site, developed at the grassroots level many decades ago, are still well within living memory here. One of those interviewed was Haim Malka, seven generations in Tiberias, and a sort of Baruch Agadati of the city, even wearing a sort of Agadati hat. In 1924, when he was 17 years old, he organized the local youth "to clean up the city, to decorate all the streets —

and especially the bicycles — and to make a big procession to attract more tourists." And that, he said, "would make the Ba'al ha-Nes happy."

Ahuva Turgeman, a member of the choir which so upset the ultras, is from a family that has been in Tiberias for 14 generations (which adds up to a lot of *mitzvot*). "There was nothing here but mud and rocks," she recalled, "and we had only simple pleasures, but we were happy. And all the rabbis — they were here to serve the people, and how hard they worked!"

But these are among the interviews that will presumably be broadcast, and need not be previewed here. When I see them on screen, I will recall the marginal disunity that went on off-camera. There was no violence, and it was all relatively low-keyed, as our religious battles go these days. But what makes it the Television of the Absurd, as I cannot help repeating, is that this involved an encounter between the religious-traditional and the fanatic fringe, within the framework of a programme designed to bring religious content to a broad audience, including the non-religious.

I am afraid that the encounter I will remember took place after the recording, when the camera equipment was being dismantled and all of us were leaving in the dark. A little group of *haredi* youngsters were agitatedly still shouting "Desecration!" and "Abomination!" A middle-aged Tiberian, this one bare-headed, was looking at them as though they were crazy.

"Look at Tiberias today!" said one of the Ashkenazi boys, with hatred in his eyes. "You've brought dishonour to Tiberias..."

"Listen," said the secular citizen, "I was honouring Tiberias before you were born."

I AM INDEBTED to the evening, in all its aspects, for making me take a slightly closer look at the Miracle Maker, Rabbi Meir, known for his piety and for practising what he preached, taught that "a blessing rests only on labour," and that "a man should always teach his son a clean craft," which is more than many yeshivot do today. Curiously, he is said to have — perhaps — been descended from, of all people, the Emperor Nero, which is hardly a recommendation.

And then, it is well to be reminded that rabbinical infighting has a long, long tradition. As the Jerusalem Talmud tells us, certain circles of the Jewish establishment of his day "wished to excommunicate Meir."

And considering the playing up of the dangers of female seductiveness at the tomb under the television lights, there is the matter of Meir's wife Beruria, who has appeared in several literary forms including a recent local play. (Oh, yes: there was also a little on-camera joke to warm up the audience, which went: "And if anybody has explained at home that this is where they'll be tonight — you'd better be seen on the screen! Ha, ha!")

One of the legends about Rabbi Meir tells how he rescued Beruria's sister from a brothel. As for Beruria herself, she is famous as the only woman in Talmudic literature whose views on Halacha were taken seriously by her contemporaries. Her influence on her husband's decisions was strong; she had great knowledge — and a sense of humour as well.

But, as one source puts it, "as a result of her pretensions of being above feminine weakness, she was led astray, with tragic consequences." In a legend, quoted by Rashi, "Beruria was seduced by one of the scholars." The italics, naturally, are mine.

Undefined but delightful fun

MUSIC

ISRAELI PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA. Light classical music. Zubin Mehta conducting, with Pina Salzman, pianist, and Theodore Bikel, actor-singer. (Tel Aviv, Mann Auditorium, March 18) Verdi: *Overture to "La Forza del Destino"*; Lavry: *Concerto for piano and orchestra*, op. 201; folk songs and songs from musicals.

WHAT IS light classical music? Opinions vary, but Zubin Mehta is not worried about definitions. For him, anything that is fun to play and listen to goes, and folk songs, Broadway tunes, chansons, backed up by the full symphony orchestra, are classical enough for him.

All the more so on a Purim night, what with the first cellist wearing a clown's costume. Mehta donning a funny hat, joking with his soloist, and pledging allegiance to King Ahashverosh. And fun it was, despite the coarse amplification, the less than ravishing vocal gifts of Theodore Bikel and his often laboured enunciation (his Russo-English and Russo-Hebrew being much better than his Russian proper). All the songs were beautiful, containing a liberal dose of romantic sadness (in Jacques Brel), healthy humour (*Fiddler on the Roof*), Yiddish nostalgia (*The Megilla* by Seltzer and Manger). The audience loved it.

The first — less light, more classical — half of the concert opened

with a strong, precise and well-proportioned rendition of the Verdi. The piano concerto by Marc Lavry, one of the early Israeli composers, is as good a vehicle as any for Pina Salzman's great artistry. The piano sound was enchanting in the slow movement, which she played with touching simplicity and remarkable projection, while the subtle rhythmic flexibility testified to her exquisite taste. The technical demands of the boisterous outer movements were negotiated effortlessly and gracefully.

ELI KAREV.

JERUSALEM SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA. Michel Tabachnik conducting, with Bracha Eden-Alexander Tamir, Baritone (Jerusalem Theatre, March 20). Brahms: *Tragic Overture*; Mozart: *Concerto for Two Pianos*, K.361; Schostakovich: *Symphony No. 3*.

MICHEL TABACHNIK belongs to that class of conductors who go all-out in their emotional interpretations. He applies huge expansive movements, complete with dancing steps, knee-bending, jumps and any imploring gesture to get maximum results from the orchestra. But, in contrast to another conductor of this kind, who recently turned the

Tragic Overture into a very slow-moving, near static burial ceremony. Tabachnik's "Tragic" was given a highly dramatic, emotion-filled and fast-moving reading. What counts more than anything in his favour is the fact that rarely has the JSO emitted such glorious, rich, compact string sound, or shown such elasticity in movement and dynamic shading, such colourful emotional expression.

All this tremendous effort and achievement seemed a waste in Saint-Saens Third Symphony, which is shallow and mediocre, even when the conductor gives it an intense and dedicated reading.

The Eden-Tamir team had to be content with two very different instruments, one bright and clear, the other muddied. Under these circumstances, one could study the applicability of such differences as representing contrasting personalities, though Mozart's texture clearly prescribes imitative phrases of similar character. The Duo, nevertheless, symmetrical in hand-dicap with elegance and equanimity, and their rendition again proved their long-time experience as a team and their complete unanimity of purpose, earning hearty applause from the audience.

YOHANAN BOEHM

COALITION DEFEATED

The entire delegation could have returned in good time, and if they chose to remain that was their own fault. Furthermore, there was nothing final about yesterday's vote. It was only the preliminary reading. The three members would have ample opportunity to vote next week on the bills' first, second and third readings.

When the session was resumed at 5:05 p.m., Shimon Peres presented the Alignment motion.

He said that the government installed at the beginning of the Tenth Knesset was led by Menachem Begin, Yoram Aridor as finance minister and Ariel Sharon as defence minister. None of the three is still at the helm.

A new team was needed, one that had a mandate from the voter, Peres said. He said that a government that hinges on the arrival of one airplane was not one that could take the important decisions in defence and economic affairs.

"The election campaign has already begun," Peres said. "The real question is how long it will last." If the elections were put off to October or November, it would mean an extra five or six months in

which the people's money would be wasted and in which "election economics" would prevail.

Peres spoke of elections in "May or June," although the bill he was presenting, tabled last October 31, provides for elections "100 days after this bill is passed by the Knesset." That, however, is considered a technicality, since that clause can easily be changed in the Knesset Law Committee.

Aharon Abuhaitzira, presenting Tami's bill, also spoke of the difficult economic, political and security decisions that the government had to take. Yet it was dependent on the votes of individual MKs and on small factions.

"I don't want a government that is dependent even on us," he said, referring to Tami's three-man faction. He expressed regret that Tami's efforts to get the Likud and the Alignment to agree on a date for early elections had failed.

"Our decision has been motivated not by partisan considerations but by the national interest," he declared.

At 5:30 p.m., Deputy Speaker Meir Cohen-Avidov declared the second recess of the day, saying that the House Committee would meet

BEN-PORAT

(Continued from Page One)

ment in his speech to the Knesset. Ben-Porat only informed Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir of his decision to vote against the coalition when he met him in the afternoon, just before the Knesset debate was to begin.

But hints were already in the air and the Likud suspected throughout the day that Ben-Porat had been won over.

An attempt to smoke screen any deal was made when Ben-Porat announced after midnight Wednesday that his "movement's secretariat" had decided to continue working for a national unity government. If it did support early elections, it was said, they would be autumn elections. This seemed to tie in with the Likud position.

But by morning, Herut's Ronni Milo was accusing Labour of having offered Ben-Porat a safe slot on its next Knesset list and other favours. An indignant Ben-Porat hotly denied this, calling it slanderous, and repeated that his sole interest was a national unity government. That clash seemed to indicate to some observers that a deal had been struck.

Further confirmation seemed to be provided later in the morning when Labour put up only very weak resistance to Knesset Speaker Menachem Savidor's decision to postpone the debate till late afternoon to allow Zeigerman and the other returnees from Argentina to participate in the vote. At that point

it seemed crystal clear to Likud insiders that there was a deal with Ben-Porat. Had Labour's success depended on blocking Zeigerman, a much more convincing effort would have been made, they argued.

The Likud continued in a vain effort to sway Ben-Porat from his decision. Among those who sought to prevail on him was Defence Minister Moshe Arens. According to rumours in the House, Shamir even offered Ben-Porat a portfolio in the cabinet, though no one could say which. He also reportedly told him that elections would be advanced to the autumn and that until then, Tami would be ousted from the coalition and it would operate with 61 MKs only. Ben Porat is seen as one of Tami's opponents in the House.

Other rumours were that Labour had won over Ben-Porat with at least the promise of a slot on its next list of candidates, since the general consensus is that Ben-Porat could not re-enter the Knesset on his Telem ticket. Ben-Porat categorically rejected the notion that he discussed such matters and it was clear to political observers that unlike the case of Likud defectors MKs Amnon Linn and Yitzhak Peretz, no written agreement could be produced to back up any contentions of a payoff in this case.

Ben-Porat argued throughout the day that he would run on his own

there were arguments in favour of both sides, he did not want the precedent set during his speakership of having a secret ballot on a question for which this was not specifically provided in the Knesset Rules.

He suggested that the committee's decision be treated as permitting the House to hold a secret vote, and let the House first vote on the voting procedure.

But after half a dozen members expressed their views on the matter — some declaring that the committee's decision was final, others approving Savidor's proposal, and still others urging him to decide the matter himself — he adopted the latter course.

Article 62 of the Knesset Rules deals with the method of voting. It states that voting shall be by a show of hands. It further states that voting shall be by roll call if so requested by at least 20 members.

The same article states that a secret ballot shall be held for the removal of a member's immunity and for elections provided for by law, e.g., the election of the president and of judges.

But the Likud in the House Committee relied on Article 148, which reads: "The Knesset shall not discuss any matter in a manner of discussion that deviates from the provisions of the Rules or from the precedents, unless the House Committee so decides."

Yesterday's session was opened at 11 a.m. When question time was over, shortly before noon, Speaker Menachem Savidor announced that he was declaring a recess until 5 p.m. to enable the three members on their way back from Argentina to reach the Knesset.

He said that they had been sent by the Knesset on a state mission. Under the Knesset rules, such a mission may not be terminated without the knowledge of the Speaker.

Nevertheless, one member had returned without consulting the Speaker. Savidor was referring to Rabbi Menachem Hacohen (Alignment-Labour), but he did not mention his name. On Tuesday Savidor's bureau chief asked the Alignment leaders not to call back its members on the delegation.

Why should one member of the delegation be able to vote while the three who stayed on be denied that right, Savidor asked.

He also noted that on Tuesday an urgent cable was received from Israel's ambassador to Argentina pleading for the delegation to stay on and stick to its original itinerary, which included a meeting with the state president yesterday.

Alignment faction chairman Moshe Shahal protested that declaring a recess to enable members to arrive from abroad constituted a dangerous precedent.

Roof caves in on share market

TEL AVIV. — The roof veritably caved in on the stock exchange yesterday as share prices experienced one of the worst single-day performances in memory. It seemed as if the investment community had ganged up with speculators in one major effort to unload its share holdings. The result was that the "bears" lumbered into the exchange and left it in total shambles.

An even 400 securities fell by 5-10 per cent. Of these an incredible 239 issues could not be traded, as the buyers were just not around. As a result they were fixed as "sellers only" and in keeping with regulations their prices were fixed five per cent lower than on Wednesday's closing.

Only one issue advanced by a major margin — Clal Electronic Industries, which just released an excellent profit and loss statement.

Early in the day the commercial banks reported that selling orders were coming in at a fast and furious clip. The options traded sharply lower and the stage was set for the massive sell-off.

Speculation was rampant that early elections would be put off. The prospect of a long period of political uncertainty generally goes against the grain of investors. An early election date would have meant relaxation of the stiff economic measures foreseen. Certainly the government would have done its best to slow down the recessionary process, which is inevitably accompanied by unemployment. Many investors were just in a plain hurry to salvage the gains accumulated earlier in the week.

In any case, the expectations of a "roller coaster" market are being fulfilled. The big question which remains over the weekend is whether there is any reason for a rebound. The consensus seems to be negative for such a prospect.

Turnovers were just under IS 875 million. It was a high figure, considering that two out of every three shares were on the "sellers only" list.

Bank shares part of the "agreement" were not spared. Union Bank, Hapoalim, Mizrahi, Otzar Lehitivshuv and Finance and Trade were all 10 per cent losers. IDB was down 9 per cent, but Israel General was unchanged.

Shares in the bank and bankholding group were spared a similar fate, but only because they all wound up as being listed as "sellers only".

Ten per cent losses were seen scattered throughout the mortgage bank group. Leumi Industries and the Industrial Bank shares were 10 per cent losers among specialized financial institutions.

It was either "sellers only" or a 10 per cent downdrop for insurance equities.

This pattern was repeated among service and trade issues. The recent

Tel Aviv Stock Exchange

By JOSEPH MORGENSTERN

ly issued Inter-Gamma option was 11.1 per cent lower.

There was little to be said about land development, real estate and citrus plantation issues that has not been said about the other groups of trading.

Among industrials the pattern repeated itself, but here the options were very sharply lower. Nechushtan, for one, fell by 25 per cent. The Zion Cables option declined by 31.6 per cent.

Clal Industries did not trade as the company unfurled a handsome profit and loss report. "Holders of the Clal Industries shares were lucky," chuckled a portfolio manager. He was referring to the fact that the shares were not traded as a result of the announcement.

Oils and investment company securities traded very much in line with the rest of the market.

Index-linked bonds were mostly mixed, with some upside tendency visible. Trading turnovers dwindled to the IS 360 million mark.

The shekel was devalued by 34 agorot against the dollar.

Clal Trade did not trade yesterday. The company announced its results for 1983 and these showed a drop in profits. The net after-tax profit stood at IS 487m. compared with IS 242m. a year earlier. After adjustment for inflation, the company had a loss of IS 193m., compared with a IS 201m. profit a year ago.

The company's revenues, however, advanced sharply, from IS3.8 billion to IS20.6b., a real advance of nearly 200 per cent. The balance sheet total stood at IS19.4b., compared with IS4.8b. in 1982.

Israel Central Trade and Investments shares also did not trade, as the company unveiled its financials. Net profits reflected a real gain of 19 per cent. The company's exports came to \$32m.

Leumi raises its pakam interest today

Jerusalem Post Reporter

TEL AVIV. — Bank Leumi today raises by 2.1 per cent the interest it pays on 30-day pakam (short-term deposits). Small sums of (\$4,000 to \$50,000) will now earn 11.85 per cent a month (which is an effective annual rate of 283), while large sums of \$51m. or more, will earn 14.45 per cent a month (an annual rate of 405 per cent).

Interest on all pakam accounts will probably be raised on April 1 by all banks, following the 4 per cent

raise by the Bank of Israel on the interest rates it charges, or pays, the commercial banks. The exact raise by the commercial banks will be announced shortly, but a few banks think that they will raise their rates by only 3.5 per cent.

What is certain is that Leumi (and probably the other banks too) will raise their prime rate on loans by 3.5 per cent on April 1, from the present 13 to 16.5 per cent. Unauthorized overdrafts will also be raised by 3.5 per cent, to 20 per cent a month.

Most active stocks

Hapoalim	3835	87,986.4m.	-425
Leumi	2360	50,926.4m.	-130
IDB	5480	50,224.2m.	-540
Bankers traded:		IS23.5m.	
Bonds:		IS360.1m.	

Commercial Banks

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
OHF	2015	30	-23.4
Maritime 0.1	922	s.o.l.	-48
Maritime 0.5	351	s.o.l.	-18
N. American 1	5970	99	n.c.
N. American 5	4900	371	-150
N. am. op 1	3931	394	n.c.
Danot 1	480	s.o.l.	-7
Danot 2	335	s.o.l.	-17
First Int'l 0.5	547	s.o.l.	-29
FIBI 0.5	423	s.o.l.	-22

Commercial Banks

(part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
IDB	12800	n.c.	n.c.
IDB 1	5480	916	-9.0
IDB 2	6050	34	n.c.
IDB 3	35500	n.c.	n.c.
IDB op 1	4194	164	-366
Unim 0.1	7510	21	n.c.
Discount B	7200	115	-445
Discount op 1	880	192	-10
Discount B 2	2245	1269	-240
Murabi 1	2272	129	-253
Murabi op 1	4670	99	-38
Murabi op 2	1780	265	-105
Murabi op 3	21500	1	n.c.
Murabi op 4	1090	292	-44
Hapoalim 1	3280	3	-480
Hapoalim 2	3835	294	-425
Hapoalim 3	3755	271	-100
Hapoalim op 1	15720	2	-10
General A	10604	91	n.c.
General op 1	25000	-420	-1.7
General op 2	10270	4	-200
General op 3	7704	4	-200
General op 4	493	24	-2
Leumi 0.1	2360	1157	-150
Leumi op 1	3480	263	-70
Leumi op 2	3198	28	-300
Leumi op 3	1721	2	-191
Leumi op 4	3310	-250	-7.0

Mortgage Banks

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Adanim 0.1	1350	4	-150
Adanim 0.5	2068	332	-95
Adanim op 1	1668	29	-142
Adanim op 2	1435	s.o.l.	-75
Adanim op 3	1174	s.o.l.	-106
Adanim op 4	1174	90	-14
Adanim op 5	1852	66	-326
Adanim op 6	684	s.o.l.	-36
Adanim op 7	700	259	-139
Adanim op 8	4560	s.o.l.	-340
Adanim op 9	2508	51	-100
Adanim op 10	1534	-171	-100
Adanim op 11	1544	s.o.l.	-81
Adanim op 12	580	18	n.c.
Adanim op 13	200	304	-10
Adanim op 14	314	s.o.l.	-16
Adanim op 15	299	s.o.l.	-15
Adanim op 16	186	686	-34
Adanim op 17	401	s.o.l.	-21

Financial Institutions

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Shilon 1	250	s.o.l.	-11
Shilon op 1	1952	1	n.c.
Shilon op 2	15400	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 3	13350	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 4	1360	378	-130
Shilon op 5	1360	378	-130
Shilon op 6	9108	8	-1012
Shilon op 7	36010	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 8	23650	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 9	23430	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 10	20528	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 11	207	s.o.l.	-11
Shilon op 12	14360	n.c.	n.c.
Shilon op 13	518	s.o.l.	-39
Shilon op 14	323	s.o.l.	-17
Shilon op 15	1010	24	n.c.

Insurance

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Ararat 0.1	998	s.o.l.	-52
Ararat 0.5	401	s.o.l.	-21
Ararat op 1	1140	s.o.l.	-50
Ararat op 2	322	s.o.l.	-17
Ararat op 3	405	76	-10
Ararat op 4	218	s.o.l.	-11
Ararat op 5	580	s.o.l.	-30
Ararat op 6	1617	120	n.c.
Ararat op 7	314	s.o.l.	-27
Ararat op 8	600	81	n.c.
Ararat op 9	596	139	n.c.
Ararat op 10	750	185	n.c.
Ararat op 11	447	s.o.l.	-23
Ararat op 12	322	s.o.l.	-14
Ararat op 13	157	135	-19
Ararat op 14	1499	11	-1
Ararat op 15	367	388	n.c.
Ararat op 16	1305	39	-145
Ararat op 17	815	s.o.l.	-43
Ararat op 18	546	s.o.l.	-29
Ararat op 19	210	288	n.c.

Trade & Services

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Meir Ezra	450	1042	-47
Meir Ezra op 1	299	167	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 2	314	s.o.l.	-16
Meir Ezra op 3	176	s.o.l.	-9
Meir Ezra op 4	92	s.o.l.	-9
Meir Ezra op 5	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 6	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 7	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 8	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 9	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 10	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 11	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 12	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 13	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 14	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 15	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 16	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 17	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 18	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 19	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Meir Ezra op 20	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.

Services

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Delek 1	2205	813	n.c.
Delek 2	700	42	-50
Delek 3	315	126	-35
Delek 4	997	689	-78
Delek 5	391	2164	-10
Delek 6	14735	1	-1637
Delek 7	7870	70	-874
Delek 8	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 9	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 10	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 11	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 12	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 13	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 14	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 15	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 16	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 17	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 18	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 19	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.
Delek 20	n.c.	n.c.	n.c.

Hotels, Tourism

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Galei Zohar 1	893	s.o.l.	-47
Galei Zohar 2	282	127	-31
Galei Zohar 3	780	130	-70
Galei Zohar 4	448	197	-50
Galei Zohar 5	421	328	n.c.
Galei Zohar 6	201	131	-14
Galei Zohar 7	151	s.o.l.	-13
Galei Zohar 8	292	s.o.l.	-15
Galei Zohar 9	220	s.o.l.	-13

Computers

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Data	279	94	-31
Hilon 1	557	311	-62
Hilon 2	890	n.c.	n.c.
Hilon 3	1500	17	-10
Hilon 4	1245	42	-45
Hilon 5	499	s.o.l.	-131
Hilon 6	402	40	n.c.
Hilon 7	1065	52	-35
Hilon 8	525	69	-38
Hilon 9	377	20	-53
Hilon 10	367	s.o.l.	-19
Hilon 11	422	s.o.l.	-22
Hilon 12	330	s.o.l.	-12
Hilon 13	207	s.o.l.	-12
Hilon 14	1215	48	-135
Hilon 15	885	57	-130

Real Estate, Building

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Oren	335	s.o.l.	-17
Azaron op 1	364	s.o.l.	-30
Azaron op 2	265	1218	n.c.
Azaron op 3	92	255	-10
Azaron op 4	68	275	-9
Azaron op 5	197	s.o.l.	-10
Azaron op 6	148	s.o.l.	-7
Azaron op 7	261	s.o.l.	-14
Azaron op 8	131	s.o.l.	-13
Azaron op 9	159	1054	-14
Azaron op 10	153	134	-20
Azaron op 11	183	160	-12
Azaron op 12	174	254	-12
Azaron op 13	788	314	n.c.
Azaron op 14	248	s.o.l.	-13
Azaron op 15	423	s.o.l.	-22
Azaron op 16	232	102	-17
Azaron op 17	194	s.o.l.	-10
Azaron op 18	145	s.o.l.	-7
Azaron op 19	117	s.o.l.	-7
Azaron op 20	237	s.o.l.	-13
Azaron op 21	299	s.o.l.	-16
Azaron op 22	119	850	-13
Azaron op 23	125	433	-19

Metals and Metal Products

(not part of "arrangement")	Volume	Change	% change
Octagon	450	50	-5
Octagon op 1	286	56	-5
Octagon op 2	2071	127	-230
Octagon op 3	1340	s.o.l.	-70
Octagon op 4	946	206	n.c.
Octagon op 5	1040	95	-70
Octagon op 6	1015	15	-100
Octagon op 7	451	s.o.l.	-24
Octagon op 8	204	241	-10
Octagon op 9	356	s.o.l.	-19
Octagon op 10	277	s.o.l.	-19
Octagon op 11	201	109	-22
Octagon op 12	130	116	-5
Octagon op 13	2510	78	n.c.
Octagon op 14	398	2324	-44
Octagon op 15	91	314	-31
Octagon op 16	301	1102	-34
Octagon op 17	210	1038	-10
Octagon op 18	322	185	-50

		Levinstein I	
		Levinstein S	
		Levinstein op	
		Levinstein S	
52	-5.0	Neot Aviv	
21	-3.0	Azorim Prop.	
60	-3.0	Sahar Hold I	
17	-5.0	Sahar Hold S	
45	-10.0	Sole Boneh	
11	-4.8	Sahar I	
30	-4.9	Sahar S	
	-	Sahar op	
	-	Avot VeSeta	
27	-5.0	Cassara 0.1	
	-	Cassara 0.5	
	-	Egrovim I	
	-	Rogovin S	
23	-4.9	Rogovin op	
19	-3.1	Rasoco p	
10	-5.8	Rasoco r	
1	-1.1	Rasoco op	

